

Home Address *

██████████, Aurora IL

Zip Code *

██████

Home Phone

██████████

Mobile Phone Number *

██████████

High School *

- West Aurora
- East Aurora
- Metea Valley
- Waubonsee Valley
- Illinois Math and Science Academy
- Option 6
- Other:

Aldermanic District

If you do not know your Aldermanic District, please leave blank.

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Why do you want to join the Aurora Youth Council? *

“Hello Alexa, it’s nice to meet you. Where are you from?”

This common, introductory question sparked several viable responses. Chicagoland area? Aurora? Naperville? Aurora-Naperville area? I had a split-second to decide....

Growing up, I never really felt like I had a city to call my own. I live in Aurora, but it always felt distant. But the thing is, I love Aurora! One of my absolute favorite memories as a child was participating in a Color Run 5K in downtown Aurora, which inspired my 5-year career in running. And, of course, I went to the Paramount Theater with my family, and volunteered at Hesed House: but there was just something missing. Because I live in District 204, I have strong friendships with students who live in Naperville. Yet, I don’t feel at home in Naperville. I live in the 10th Ward. So what do I answer? Where am I from? For awhile, I couldn’t figure out what was wrong. And then it hit me.

I did not feel a sense of community.

At least, I didn’t a year ago. The students of Metea Valley often go to various areas in Aurora to volunteer: Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry, Hesed House, nursing homes, etc. It is safe to say that I was an active participant in the Aurora community. However, I was never interacting with the youth of Aurora, and THAT was the problem. I live 10 minutes away from potential life-long friends and associates: those with whom I can build an even better Aurora with.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to plan a mayoral forum in conjunction with several students from East and West Aurora High School. We met several times to work on questions, content, and fine-tune details of the night. When I looked out at the crowd while an East Aurora student gave the closing remarks that pivotal night in February, I was changed forever. I felt like I belonged, and was beyond grateful that I lived in Aurora. I realized that I was part of a vivacious community, full of engagement and good citizenship. This sense of community is available for everyone, and it is in our reach. As a prospective member of the Aurora Youth Council, it is my vision to promote the unification of the City of Aurora. How can we get the ALL of the Aurora youth together? How do we cultivate a sense of community for our youth throughout the entire city? These are the types of questions I hope that we will consider as a Council.

I have a vision to cultivate a sense of community, bringing together our youth. I want to be a voice for those who may not be able to speak up for themselves, because I am a proponent of change, of betterment.

.... Through my participation and community-bolstering involvement as a member of the Aurora Youth Council, I will be proud to answer this simple get-to-know-you question, proclaiming that I live in "Aurora, the 2nd largest city in Illinois. Aurora, a flourishing cultural and business center. Aurora, the City of Lights"!

Name one issue you care deeply about. *

I care deeply about gender inequality.

How did you hear about the Aurora Youth Council *

School

Newspaper

Social Media

Flyer

Friend

Other:

Which social media sites do you use? *

Facebook

Instagram

Snapchat

LinkedIn

Other:

Submit your resume to InnovateAurora@aurora-il.org with Aurora Youth Council in the Subject Line. Applications are due September 30, 2017.



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