Aurora Youth Council Application

The Aurora Youth Council is a group of active Aurora teens who have an interest in local issues and want to share their ideas with city government representatives, to build community among Aurora youth through council sponsored projects and want to use their youth council experience for their respective personal and professional development.

In order to apply for the Aurora Youth Council, you must meet the following criteria:

- *Live in the city of Aurora
- *Be of high school age (9th through 12th grades)
- *Attend either of the following high schools: West Aurora, East Aurora, Metea Valley, Waubonsee Valley, Illinois Science and Math Academy or an Aurora based private school.

Email address *
Name * First and last name
Venkat Shashank Vege
Age *
Date of Birth *
MM DD YYYY
/ / /

Home Address *		
Zip Code *		
Home Phone		
Mobile Phone Number *		
High School *		
O West Aurora		
C East Aurora		
Metea Valley		
O Waubonsee Valley		
O Illinois Math and Science Academy		
Option 6		
Other:		

Aldermanic District

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

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

The Aurora Youth Council gives a motivated student like me an opportunity to express my voice and give back to the community that has practically raised and supported me. When I saw this youth council being formed, I was absolutely ecstatic due to two main reasons; the first reason for excitement was the realization that our new aurora government harbored a vision for the youth and their influential place in our growing society and second reason revolved around the idea that now this council would allow me and students like myself to network and create substantial change for the people. This new platform for our youth will now play a major role in motivating and inspiring students to truly utilize their powers and initiate movements for our betterment. It gives a chance for a group of true leaders to go out there for Aurora and be model students for the kids while implementing their ideas for our people. I truly believe in the idea of applied excellence - where one cannot just aim to be excellent, but one has to learn how to spread that excellence to generations beyond themselves - and this youth council is an amazing platform to advance that personal belief in applied excellence. Our true impact is never in the success we achieve, but more so in the success we help create, and that is exactly what I intend to do through our Aurora Youth Council.

Name one issue you care deeply about. *

One issue that has always been a part of my core personality is the issue around equality of representation. I have always felt that some people, usually the more affluent, always have a more impactful say in our politics, education system, and society in general. There are thousands and millions of hardworking families out there that have substantial additions to make and although it is not efficient nor possible to get ALL their voices, positive steps like these youth councils or community meetings have to take place more often because of their crucial attempts in tapping into these hardworking families and listening to what they feel is needed for our communities, governments, and education. I believe in the idea that "For one to truly understand the pain of hunger, they themselves had to have experienced it" and apply that principle to almost any societal situation. We have to come together as a community and fix this unequal platform because it not only serves as a catalyst for societal advancement but also becomes an inherent motivation factor inside each and every one of us because of the renowned sense that we will feel due to our voices having a new power to it. I have always felt this biased representation will hurt our country and set us back far beyond expected, leading me to finding this to be one of the issues I truly fear and care about. We have to make change and we have to broaden our perspectives for the betterment of our community, because at the end of the day we are all human and we are all family.

How did you hear about the Aurora Youth Council *

$loodsymbol{igo}$	School
\bigcirc	Newspaper
\bigcirc	Social Media
\bigcirc	Flyer
\bigcirc	Friend
\bigcirc	Other:

Which social media sites do you use? *		
✓	Facebook	
\checkmark	Instagram	
✓	Snapchat	
	LinkedIn	
\checkmark	Other: Twitter	

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

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