

# YOUTH COLLABORATORY 2019-2020



Questions?

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Deadline: July 1, 2019

## **About Citizen University's Youth Collaboratory**

This program is part of the Youth Power Project, a multi-year effort supported by the Ford Foundation to empower and connect a rising generation of civic leaders and doers.

The 2019-2020 Youth Collaboratory cohort will consist of 24 highly-motivated students from around the country who are passionate about making a positive change in their communities and country. Participants will travel to cities around the nation, meet leading civic innovators from across the country, participate in workshops on citizen power, and complete independent projects in their communities. This is a unique and exciting opportunity to be connected to a network of incredible change-makers and gain the skills and connections for a lifetime of civic power.

### **Youth Collaboratory 2019-2020 Dates and Locations:**

- October 9-12, 2019 in Seattle, WA
- February 26-29, 2020 in Atlanta, GA
- May 20-23, 2020 in New York City, NY

### **About Us**

Citizen University exists to spread the belief that a strong democracy relies on strong citizens - that we all have the power to make change happen in civic life, and that we have the responsibility to try.

Our mission is to build a culture of powerful, responsible citizenship across the country. We envision a great civic revival across our nation - our dream is a country in which Americans are steeped in a sense a civic character, educated in the tools of civic power, and are problem solving contributors in a self-governing community.

## **APPLY NOW!**

### **Before You Apply**

We want to help you gather all of the necessary information and provide you with a solid understanding of the responsibility that comes with being a member of the Youth Collaboratory program. Read on to get more details about the program!



Our students represent various communities, experiences, passions, and talents.

**All of our Youth Collaboratory members will:**

- Be committed to improving themselves, their communities, and the world
- Be a current high school sophomore and/or junior in the Fall of 2019
- Live in the United States of America
- Attend all three of the Youth Collaboratory meetings

Students who come from backgrounds that historically have less access to power and civic opportunity are especially encouraged to apply, including people of color, immigrants, and women.

**Here's what Citizen University will provide:**

- Travel, lodging, activity costs, and meals for all three meetings of the Youth Collaboratory
- Tools and workshop trainings to become powerful, engaged citizen leaders
- Connections with national civic innovators and mentors
- Connections with other student leaders and innovators from around the country
- Copy of "You're More Powerful Than You Think" by Citizen University's Co-Founder, Eric Liu

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Citizen University designs each collaboratory to cater to the talents and interests of our Youth Collaboratory members – as civic life evolves so too does our Collaboratory programming.

**Here’s a general program itinerary:**

TRAVEL + ROOMING	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Students arrive late afternoon/evening on <b>Wednesday</b>	Check-in at hotel and get settled before dinner	Breakfast/Morning Session	Breakfast/Morning Session (w/ National Civic Collaboratory)
Students are assigned a roommate and room checks occur <b>10:00 pm</b> every night	Welcome Dinner followed by evening programming	Lunch/Afternoon Session + Local Cultural Activity	Lunch/Afternoon Session (w/ National Civic Collaboratory)
Students depart morning/afternoon on <b>Saturday</b>	Free Time	Welcome Dinner (w/ National Civic Collaboratory)	Youth Debrief/Program Reflection

When they get back home, students will put lessons learned into practice and develop personal projects to support their communities.

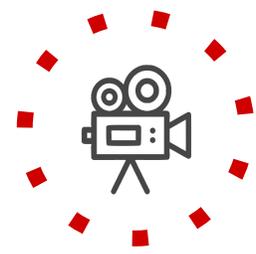
**Examples of projects designed and implemented by past participants:**



Britt M. created workshops to help young people and law enforcement better understand and respect one another.



Olivia F. recorded a podcast exploring young people’s attitudes towards active citizenship in communities around the world.



Ethereal R. filmed a video that raised awareness around the ways beauty standards combined with racial identity can impact young women

## Ready to Apply?

### KEY DATES

- Applications deadline is at Midnight (PST) on Monday, July 1, 2019
- Applications will be reviewed in July 2019
- Cohort members will be selected by August 1, 2019

*Once your application has been submitted, you will not be able to to modify supporting documents, so please proofread your materials thoroughly before submission.*

*Application questions are listed below as they appear on the application so you may prepare your answers in advance of applying. Be sure to submit questions in the application form.*

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. How has your life been shaped by affected by power in civic life, whether exercised by you or by others?
2. Describe two or three facets of your identity and how they have helped shape who you are. *(This could include political or religious views, racial or ethnic background, family history or experience, or other experiences that have contributed to making you who you are.)*
3. Citizen University operates with seven core values: Responsibility, Equity, Spirit, Purpose, Ingenuity, Collaboration, and Trust. Select one that feels personally meaningful for you and tell us why it's a value you share as well.
4. This program is designed to empower you as a civic leader in your community. We believe that civic leadership involves circulating your power to others. If selected, how will you share what you learn with your community or groups you're involved with? Please include 2-3 examples. *(Community can be described in several ways - your school, neighborhood, age group, etc.)*
5. Please list up to three current activities that have allowed you to demonstrate leadership, innovation, creativity, or activism, and briefly describe your role in each activity. (Ex. sports, arts, student government, religious, and community groups, employment, etc. 750 characters max each)

### QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about your application, please contact Meaza Yalew, Youth Programs Manager at [youthcollaboratory@citizenuniversity.us](mailto:youthcollaboratory@citizenuniversity.us).

Thank you for your interest and we're looking forward reviewing your application!