



A History of National Youth Leadership Council

- **1983:** Founded by Dr. James Kielsmeier, NYLC incorporates as a nonprofit organization at the University of Minnesota. ; NYLC founds National Youth Leadership Training, and intensive summer experience in diversity training and service-learning for high school youth.
- **1984:** NYLC leads effort to develop a comprehensive Minnesota youth service model. ; National Youth Leadership Camp network, NYLC's first offshoot, launches programs in four states.
- **1985:** NYLC leads 1,300-mile Mississippi River canoe expedition celebrating United Nations International Youth Year
- **1987:** Minnesota Youth Development Act, spearheaded by NYLC, passes, allowing school districts to levy for funding to support youth service. This is the nation's first state-funded youth service initiative.
- **1988:** NYLC hosts first Governor's Youth Service Recognition celebration.
- **1989:** NYLC hosts first National Service-Learning Conference at the University of Minnesota. ; NYLC holds first National Service-Learning Teacher Institute.
- **1990:** NYLC helps write service-learning provision for National Community Service Act.
- **1991:** NYLC publishes "Growing Hope," the first service-learning guide including field-tested curricula. ; NYLC launches the National Service-Learning Initiative to address the growing needs of the service-learning field.
- **1992:** NYLC advises Clinton transition team on creation of Learn and Serve America grant program. ; NYLC launches the Generator School Project, a national service-learning and education reform demonstration project. ; NYLC offers first service-learning immersion summer school program, WalkAbout, through Minneapolis Public Schools.
- **1993:** NYLC named technical assistance provider for Corporation for National and Community Service and launches K-12 National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, based at the University of Minnesota.
- **1994:** NYLC implements National Youth Leadership Training model in Kenya.
- **1998:** NYLC launches National Service-Learning Exchange, a network of peer advisors. ; NYLC leads development of the "Essential Elements," the first nationally accepted standards for service-learning.
- **1999:** NYLC partners with Saint Paul Public Schools to develop district-wide service-learning program.
- **2001:** More than 3,000 people attend the 12th Annual National Service-Learning Conference in Denver, Colorado.
- **2002:** NYLC kicks off Growing to Greatness (G2G): The State of Service-Learning Project, which develops and publishes annual research reports.
- **2003:** NYLC initiates Y-RISE: The Service-Learning and HIV/AIDS Prevention Initiative.; NYLC hires future CEO, Amy Meuers as the National Service-Learning Conference Manager. NYLC establishes the Youth Advisory Council as a key part of the organization structure.
- **2004:** NYLC Partners with State Farm Companies on Project Ignition, a youth-led national teen driver safety initiative. ; NYLC hosts first National Urban Institute on Service-Learning.
- **2005:** NYLC partners with the Shinnyo-en Foundation to grow youth service through the National Service-Learning Conference. Ibero-American Service-Learning Network (REDIBAS) was founded in Buenos Aires, coordinated by CLAYSS and NYLC.

- 2006: NYLC Summer WalkAbout program initiated in five Gulf Coast sites following Hurricane Katrina and Rita.
- 2007: NYLC offers first annual World Forum on Service-Learning. ; NYLC partners with State Farm on first National Teen Driver Safety Summit in Washington, D.C. ; NYLC, in collaboration with the National Service-Learning Partnership, launches Service-Learning Emerging Leaders Initiative.
- 2008: NYLC releases K-12 Service-Learning Standards for Quality Practice, evidence-based standards and accompanying indicators that educators can use to ensure service-learning results in the best possible outcomes. ; NYLC turns 25!
- 2009: NYLC helps develop and support field-wide policy recommendations to promote service-learning through education and service agendas. ; NYLC launches the Generator School Network, an online community of service-learning practitioners.
- 2010: NYLC launches Lift: Raising the Bar for Service-Learning Practice, an online interactive tool exploring the eight K-12 Service-Learning Standards for Quality Practice. ; NYLC launches Generator Go Green (G3) Initiative with 25 middle schools in Minneapolis/Saint Paul, Chicago, and the Gulf Coast. ; Dr. James Kielsmeier retires after leading NYLC for nearly 30 years.
- 2011: NYLC welcomes Kelita Svoboda Bak as Chief Executive Officer. ; NYLC partners with The UPS Foundation to plan an effective model for implementing service-learning throughout school districts based on work with Guilford County Schools.
- 2012: Project Ignition students attend a job shadow day at the U.S. Department of Transportation and receive recognition from Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. ; Generator School Network surpasses 2,000 members and welcomes youth.
- 2013: NYLC celebrates 30 years!
- 2015: Amy Meuers becomes the next Chief Executive Officer of NYLC. ; NYLC provides support to the Afterschool State Network through the investment of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.
- 2016: NYLC partners with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to advance teen driver safety through Project Ignition.
- 2018: NYLC publishes Engage: A Service-Learning Handbook for Afterschool Programs. NYLC partners with the Islamic Civic Society and Open Path Resources.
- 2019: The first virtual National Service-Learning Conference takes place during the COVID-19 pandemic. NYLC publishes handbooks for young people to take action on the Sustainable Development Goals. ; NYLC's Youth Advisory Council hosts the first virtual Youth Summit.
- 2020: NYLC supports COVID-19 recovery in the Minnesota East African Community through Resources for Recovery. NYLC partners with the Allstate Foundation to revise and update Getting Started in Service-Learning.
- 2021: NYLC publishes the revised and updated Equity in Service-Learning: Self Assessment Tools for Community Engagement. ; NYLC partners with Proceed, Inc. on PODER en SALUD (Power in Health) engaging Latinx youth to address the significant challenges and impacts of COVID-19. ; NYLC launches The Power of Young People to Change the World podcast. ; NYLC launches the Certificate in Service-Learning Instructional Leadership program. ; NYLC, in partnership with other leading service-learning institutions, launches the Coalition for Service-Learning.
- 2022: NYLC launches Youth as Solutions, a national framework for students to take action through service-learning.
- 2023: NYLC becomes the K-12 partner with the National Museum and Center for Service.