Position Description

The Roots & Shoots National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC), a program of the Jane Goodall Institute USA (JGI), is made up of a passionate group of young people from around the United States who are dedicated to making positive change happen in their communities—for people, other animals, and the environment.

Members of the Roots & Shoots NYLC are the youth voice of the USA Jane Goodall Institute and work hard to support JGI’s programs and help contribute to the organization’s success while also leading projects in their communities!

NYLC members are provided with fun and comprehensive skills training and opportunities to mentor Roots & Shoots members and represent Roots & Shoots at events, conferences, or across virtual platforms. Members gain access to influential leaders, receive in-depth training on topics ranging from the Roots & Shoots program to public speaking and media relations to blog writing, and gain access to resources on becoming leaders in their local communities.

Benefits of Serving on the Council

* NYLC members are the youth voice of the Jane Goodall Institute, so they have unprecedented access to leaders at Roots & Shoots and will be consulted on new resources and the needs of our members.
* If financially secured, participation in the annual National Youth Leadership Summit, a 4 day long out-of-state (or virtual, depending on safety regulations) training and development experience Invitation to attend the Summit is dependent upon successful completion of NYLC program requirements.
* Opportunities to:
  * meet and connect with leaders from various fields
  * work directly with staff and board members of the Jane Goodall Institute
  * meet and build lasting relationships with like-minded, passionate young leaders from across the country
* As NYLC members, we are always looking for opportunities to publicly highlight your work and your skills.
* Professional development through training in fields including blog writing, media relations, and brand recognition.
NYLC Commitments

Membership on the National Youth Leadership Council is a serious commitment of time and energy.

If you confirm your membership on the NYLC to Hope, you are agreeing to:

* Create and maintain a member account on rootsandshoots.org, including building your personal profile, starting your group’s profile (if applicable), and creating and completing your Roots & Shoots projects.

* Learn the Roots & Shoots model of service learning.

* Use Step 2: Observe, of the Roots & Shoots model of service learning to identify and complete a community project. At Roots & Shoots groups initiate and brainstorm projects your members are passionate about.

* Serve a 12-month term on the Council, January-December 2021 (renewable up to 12th grade).

* Commit and report on a minimum of 10 hours per month on your individual projects, campaigns, committee work, and events.

* Attend and participate in at least 20 out of 22 term meetings. Meetings are held via webinar twice per month, approximately one hour in duration. Your group’s profile (if applicable), and creating and completing your Roots & Shoots projects.

* View and respond to Council emails a minimum of twice per week.

* Complete monthly surveys on your Roots & Shoots efforts in timely manner.

* Promote Roots & Shoots resources and campaigns through your networks.

* Participate in regional Roots & Shoots and collaborator outreach, events, conferences, and campaigns, including presentations to members, schools, and partners.

Council members who have served more than one term and are trained may also take on at least one of the following areas of responsibility:

* Serve as virtual and in-person trainers and mentors to Roots & Shoots members around the globe.

* Contribute to social media features, Good for All News blogs, and feature stories on the Roots & Shoots website.

* Contribute to or lead public speaking engagements to spread awareness about the Roots & Shoots program and your specific work.

* Lead and participate in special projects and campaigns as they arise.

* Mentor new NYLC members as they learn about Roots & Shoots, the council, and take on new levels of responsibility.