

Step Up

LOUDOUN YOUTH COMPETITION

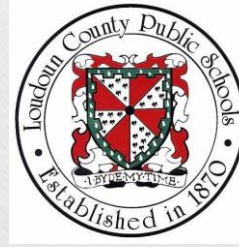
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What is Step Up?

The first Step Up was held in 2005 as a way to bring students and adults together in a dialogue that was believed to help identify the needs of the youth. We wanted to **LISTEN** to the youth and give them a **VOICE**. We then started working towards making Loudoun County the best possible place to grow up!

In 2010, Step Up was transformed into a program that empowers the youth themselves to take positive and impactful actions to make their communities a better place to live, to get an education and to play. Youth identify the issues that matter to them and they **TAKE ACTION** to create solutions!

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How do you Step Up?

- Identify a topic that is important to **you**
- Research the topic to become educated about it
- Develop and implement an action plan or solution
- Attend an Orientation Session
- Prepare and practice your 5 minute presentation
- Present your work in the preliminary round on Tuesday, March 28, 2017
- The top 10 teams move into the Finals to determine their cash prizes on April 5th, 2017

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Personalize Your Entry



Themes and Topics

- Health & Wellness
- Academic & Social Stress
- Support for Others
- Substance Abuse
- Hunger & Homelessness
- Environmental Issues
- Education

Develop an Action Plan

- How will YOU Make a Difference?
- Plan a Rally
- Start a Website
- Raise Awareness of your Topic
- Hold a Fundraiser
- Start a Club

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1st place \$1,000*

2nd place \$500*

3rd place \$250*

4th-10th places \$100 each*

* Prize amounts may change due to fundraising.



www.loudounyouth.org

Step Up Loudoun Youth
Competition 2017

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2015-2016 Top Three

1st Place, \$1,000

PASTA: An organization that addresses the many issues that kids in our community face by giving kids of all ages meaningful volunteer opportunities.

Stone Bridge, Rock Ridge Broad Run & Stone Hill Middle School

2nd Place, \$750

Breaking Your Silence: Empowering survivors of sexual assault.

Briar Woods High School

3rd Place, \$500

We're All Human: Suicide Prevention in Loudoun County/Mental Health Awareness.

Woodgrove High School

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Implementation Period
October 2016 through March 2017

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Saving Loudoun's Littles – One Car Seat at a Time

Loudoun County stopped
doing car seat safety
checks 10 years ago

SLL trains volunteers to
be car seat safety
technicians

Offer FREE car seat
safety checks



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Saving Loudoun's Littles - One Car Seat at a Time



- 30 Car Seat Technicians trained
- 500 car seats safely installed

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Peers and Students Taking Action

PASTA members
noticed a scarcity of
meaningful volunteer
opportunities for teens.



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P.A.S.T.A.

- Student-led chapters
- Conduct community service projects
- Gain leadership skills
- Completed over 60 projects
- 10 chapters
- Became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



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Judging

- At the Competition, the judges will be evaluating your project on four components:
 - Issue Analysis
 - Solution Quality
 - Community Impact
 - Presentation



Issue Analysis

- Investigate why the problem happens – the root cause
- Analyze how it impacts your school or community
- Find out if people have tried to solve this problem before – what roadblocks did they run into?



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Solution Quality



- Create a detailed solution (who? what? when? where? how?)
- Connect the solution to the problem – does it really address the issue?
- Collect data to show how your solution is making/will make an impact on your community

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Community Impact



- PASTA members highlighted 47 volunteer projects the organization had spearheaded.
- Loudoun student creates support website for sexual assault survivors.
- Woodgrove High students organize walk to raise awareness of teen suicide.

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Presentation

- Remember who your audience is and what they might already know (or don't know!)
- Be specific – go through the important details that shaped your project
- Share your passion! Get the audience excited about your project.



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March 28, 2017
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Trailside Middle School
20325 Claiborne Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20147

The public is invited.

Registration begins at 5 p.m.

Dinner will be provided for registered participants.

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Finals and Awards Ceremony

April 5, 2017

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The Club at One Loudoun

44605 Russell Branch Pkwy

Ashburn, VA 20147

The public is invited.

Registration begins at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner will be provided for registered participants.

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Send photos of your meetings, projects and I'll put them on social media. Share information about your events, links to your website, etc. and I'll help you promote them!

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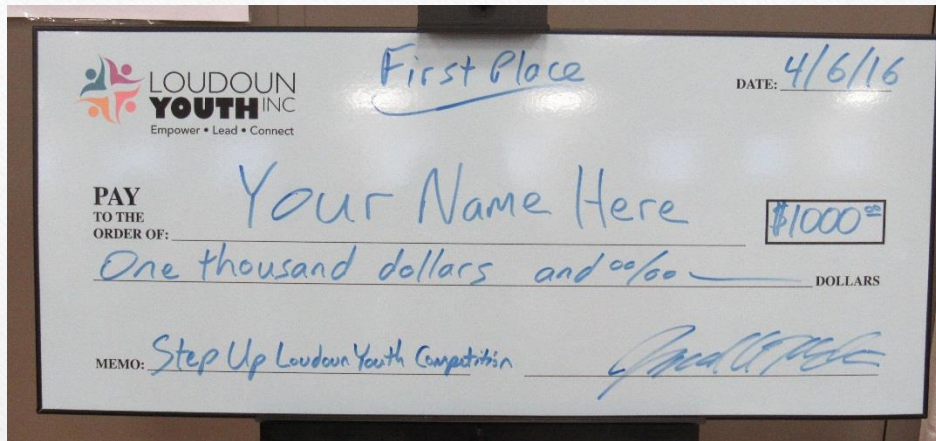
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2016 Top Ten Teams



- Make a difference.
- Be a part of the change in our community.
- Let your voice be heard.



Additional Programs...

➤ YouthFest and Battle of the Bands

4 Battle of the Bands on 1/27, 2/24, 3/24 & 4/21

YouthFest @ OneLoudoun Saturday 6/17 3-8 p.m.



➤ Loudoun Youth Leadership Program



- Summer leadership program for rising 9– 12 graders. Sign up early to reserve your spot. **Registration opens February 2017!**

➤ Step Up Your Health Challenge – AOL 5K & Fun Run

- With 10 + registrants you can earn money for your school!
Sunday, May 7, 2017 at 8 a.m.