

Dear Youth and Adult Participants,

*Thank you for attending the 11th annual Youth Court Summit! The California Association of Youth Courts (CAYC) annual summit was held June 23 – 25 at the beautiful campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz. The theme at this year's event was **Youth Courts: Generational Agents for Change** and challenged the 275 youth and adults in attendance to identify, research and develop means to improve their communities. CAYC, including the Youth Advisory Board, in collaboration with the Judicial Council of California, planned activities and workshops for youth and adults to be informed and inspired.*

*Day one saw ice breaker activities (**Art-ivism**) set up where participants made signs about situations and events where they could make a difference and be agents for change, with pre-printed "I Am Moved" and "More" and "Less" on posters, with youth completing the statements. The opening session began with a welcome from Santa Cruz judge the Honorable Denine Guy and concluded with an ice cream social, a photo scavenger hunt, a photo booth and live music from a local band, Urban Theory.*

*Workshop topics at this year's summit were provided by the CAYC Student Advisory Board and were also youth-led and included: **Creating a Social Justice Council; Divided We Stand; Gender-Equality and Social Justice; and Using Restorative Justice to Increase Awareness of Perceived Harm of Marijuana Use at School.***

*Afternoon youth sessions included: **Trauma and Resiliency and Their Influence on Creative Sentencing Options; Suspending the School to Prison Pipeline: Handling School Attendance Cases in Youth Court; Violence within Families; and National Alliance on Mental Illness NAMI** while adults learned about the complexity of **Sealing Juvenile Records**. The evening activity was a trip to the famous Santa Cruz Boardwalk where all participants received wristbands for unlimited games and rides and enjoyed a concert on the beach.*

Activities for the final day included a summit group photo at the famous Porter Squiggle, a conference debrief which was led by the Youth Advisory Board, submitting conference evaluations and suggestions for the 2017 summit in Southern California, certificates of attendance ceremony, and a musical video capturing the 3-day event.

The Honorable Charles Ervin challenged the youth to reach out to nearby communities to expand youth courts. To assist with this challenge, below is a map of California which shows where youth courts are located throughout the state. We encourage you to accept Judge Ervin's challenge and reach out to your neighboring communities!

Don't forget to add SMILE and designate CAYC to your Amazon account where a percentage of all purchases goes to CAYC!

Have a wonderful summer!

Geography of California's 65 Youth Courts

