Youth - Plan, Learn, Act, Now!
Y-PLAN prepares young people for college and careers, and builds equitable, healthy, and sustainable communities for all!

Y-PLAN “Double Bottom Line”
Summary of Emerging Outcomes for Students & Communities

Y-PLAN is a classroom-based educational strategy that uses the community as a text for core learning to authentically engage young people in city planning and policy making. Grounded in over a decade of research, Y-PLAN’s 5-step solution-oriented methodology demonstrates a “double bottom line” of positive outcomes for students and communities, summarized below.

Community Outcomes: Building Healthy, Sustainable and Joyful Communities
Y-PLAN is a reciprocal strategy that builds the capacity of young people to effectively contribute youth-driven data and insight, and of civic leaders to value and use youth insight to create better plans, policies, and more healthy, sustainable, and joyful places for everyone.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Participants: Y-PLAN changes the way professionals and civic leaders think</th>
<th>Process: Y-PLAN changes the process of city planning and policy making</th>
<th>Place + Policy: Y-PLAN changes the way places are planned, designed, and built</th>
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<td>• Change in attitudes and perceptions of young people as legitimate community contributors</td>
<td>• New strategy for sustained, informed, solution-oriented community engagement</td>
<td>• Youth-driven data and insight highlights critical community issues and moves the needle on policy discussion</td>
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<td>• Challenges assumptions, and disrupts negative stereotypes of marginalized young people</td>
<td>• Youth-driven participation diversifies the community engagement process, bringing low-income parents and other community members of color to the planning and policy-making table</td>
<td>• Plans and design of the built environment incorporate youth insight, considering diverse users of space</td>
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<td>• Develop an appreciation and ability to use youth insight as important “local knowledge” to inform decisions</td>
<td>• Catalyst for cross-sector collaboration. Mutually beneficial partnerships are developed as cities and schools recognize their “shared clients” - schools are recognized as key institutions for city planning and development</td>
<td>• Planning with and designing space for young people inculcates sense of ownership, and stewardship, and use of space, resulting in savings on maintenance costs</td>
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<td>• Re-inspired about the potential and value of diverse, “fresh,” community-wide engagement</td>
<td>• Trust is built between traditionally disenfranchised or marginalized communities and civic institutions</td>
<td>• “Simple yet powerful” insight results in “good to great” improvements in the built environment that can be implemented on a small budget and brief time span</td>
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Student Outcomes: College, Career, and Community Readiness

The Y-PLAN strategy builds the capacity of young people to effectively contribute youth-driven data and insight to the planning and policy-making process, focuses on core learning and the development of youth voice, leadership and career and college readiness skills. Key student outcomes:

**Collaborators**
- Work with peers to recognize individual and group strengths, delegate roles, set clear goals and deadlines to produce a high quality project for a real client, on a real deadline
- Participate in collaborative discussions with diverse partners and issues - responding thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarizing points of agreement and disagreement, and justifying views with evidence and reasoning
- Use technology, including the internet, to collaborate with others

**Community Contributors**
- Increase civic efficacy, and “student voice,” to influence their own learning and communities
- Work with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making
- Transfer and apply the Y-PLAN method of community development to additional contexts and issues to affect positive community and school change
- Work-based learning provides relevant skills and opportunities in preparation for internship and employment

**Critical Thinkers and Problem Solvers**
- Conduct community research to identify and analyze a critical community issue, and support recommendations with logical reasoning, textual evidence from primary and secondary sources such as plans, historical documents, and youth-driven data such as mapping, interviews, and surveys.
- Distinguish between fact and opinion, and evaluate author/speaker’s point of view and use of evidence
- Link critical reflection to action, and move from micro to macro analysis of critical community issues of equity and opportunity as they develop proposals for change

**Creators, Designers and Innovators**
- Construct explanations and design evidence-based solutions to a real community problem
- Create maps and illustrations to spatially represent observations and findings
- Use digital media (text, graphics, audio, visual, interactive) in presentations to add interest and help the audience understand findings, reasoning, and evidence

**Communicators**
- Build reciprocal communication skills, learning to listen and incorporate diverse opinions while building capacity and confidence to advocate their own ideas and opinions
- Develop public speaking and presentation skills, presenting information, findings, and evidence clearly and logically so that listeners can follow the line of reasoning
- Accurately apply a range of academic and domain-specific vocabulary in verbal presentations, and through informative, argumentative, and explanatory writing

*Y-PLAN is designed to support the attainment of Common Core and other aligned frameworks including 21st Century Skills.*