



What is the YPC?

The mission of The Center’s Young Professionals Council is to develop and empower young LGBT professionals and their allies to preserve and grow The San Diego LGBT Community Center for future generations. The YPC endeavors to advance The Center’s twin goals of promoting LGBT health and human rights. The YPC fosters a culture of diversity, service, leadership, advocacy and camaraderie among LGBT and allied San Diegans. YPC collaborates with local business, organizations and community leaders to produce fun and dynamic events in support of The Center’s programs and services.

What is the YPC Academy?

As part of its efforts to develop and empower young LGBT professionals and their allies, the YPC Academy was created in 2012. The YPC Academy helps to expand the ranks of young LGBT leaders that are ready to expand their leadership in the LGBTQ justice movement by enhancing their skillset and network, with the goal of activating them to grow in position of influence through movement building, board service, and elected office.

How do I apply for the Academy?

Applications are open each year from mid-November through Dec. 31 for admission into the next year’s class. Applications for the 2020 class close on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 8pm. The application is online and can be accessed by visiting <https://forms.gle/PsezFX51gJrwiTBp7>. The application asks for some brief information about you, and requires a 300-500 word essay, and the submission of a current resume.

How will I know if I’ve been selected for the YPC Academy?

The Selections Committee will meet in January to review applications. All applicants will be notified of their status by the YPC Staff Liaisons via email in early February.

When and where will the Academy sessions be held?

All sessions will be held at the San Diego LGBT Community Center on 6 Saturdays over the course of the late winter/spring. The 2020 dates are:

Saturday, Feb. 8

Saturday, Feb. 29

Saturday, March 14

Saturday, April 4

Saturday, April 18

Saturday, May 2

Participants should arrive each day by 9:15 am to get settled in and enjoy light refreshments. All sessions begin promptly at 9:30 am. Lunch is provided at each session, and participants should plan on being in session until 4 pm.

Can I miss sessions?

Participants should plan on participating in all 6 sessions. Being able to attend the entirety of each session is also very important, and thus, required.

What are the sessions like?

While each day is unique, participants will begin each day with a check-in exercise that will set them up for the day's topic(s). Some days will include more guest speakers, while others will be more activity focused. Participants will hear from elected officials, social justice and community leaders, and other topic experts who will help participants expand their leadership, networking, communications, fundraising, and social justice skills.

What is the YPC Academy Graduation Brunch?

At the conclusion of the program, we celebrate! Along with the YPC Executive Committee, and The Center's Development Department, YPC Academy participants will help plan the Annual Graduation Brunch. Throughout the course of the program, participants will learn fundraising skills and will assist in selling tickets, tables, and sponsorships to the brunch – which is a fundraiser for the next year's class (last year's class raised the funds for this year's class!). The date, time, and location of the brunch is still tentatively scheduled for June 13, 2020. The Staff Liaisons will inform participants of the date and time of this event as soon as it is solidified.

What if I still have more questions?

Contact the YPC Staff Liaisons Deja Cabrera & Rebekah Hook-Held at ypc@thecentersd.org.