

# **Adult Mentorship:**

## How to be an Adult Mentor to Your Youth Leaders



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Youth Climate Action Now

## Session Objectives:

- Youth Climate Action Now: Highlight the power of youth leadership
- Explore how adult allies and educators can work to empower their students through mentorship
- If we have time, discuss some of our most important initiatives around climate education that you all can be a part of with you students!







# What does youth empowerment look like to us (in and out of the classroom)?



- Centering student voices in education
- Taking action together
- Focusing on justice and equity
- Experiential/hands on learning
- Asking questions
- Sharing positive climate stories
- Interdisciplinary education
- Providing leadership opportunities
- Grounding in nature
- Creating communities of belonging
- Building relationships
- Making art/being creative
- Cultivating eco-hope
- Laughing together
- Prioritizing climate mental health
- Affirming students ability, knowledge, and experience



# What is YCAN?





# What does Youth Leadership mean to us?



Creative Climate Action Festival, 2023



Statewide YCLP Leadership Retreat, 2024

Community Building

Eco-Hope and Eco-Grief

Environmental Justice

Anti-Professionalism and  
Inclusivity

Asking for Support from our  
Partners/Allies





# What does being an adult mentor mean to us?



Youth Climate Leadership Summit, 2023



Little Leaders Summer Climate Convention, 2022



Supporting but not steering

Providing advice along the way

Being aware of power dynamics in intergeneration spaces

Trial and Error



# Examples of Adult Mentorship in Action: The Youth Climate Leadership Program Annual Summit



# How to get involved in our work!



## **Join our Climate Justice Summits**

Mass Audubon's Youth Climate Leadership Program (every fall)

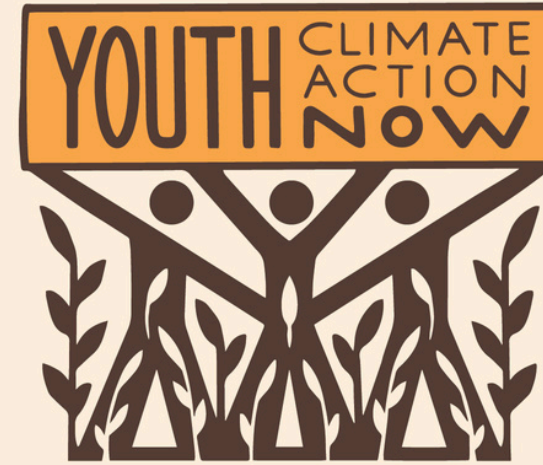


**Recommend YCAN to your students**  
Youth Climate Action Now Leadership Team is always looking for new members!

# Student Led Education Initiatives:

## State Legislature - House Bill H.4419:

An Act Implementing  
Interdisciplinary Climate Justice  
Education into K-12 curriculums



## Local/District Level - Climate Resilient Schools Coalition:

Connecting student leaders with teachers, faculty,  
and municipalities to work together to pass  
climate resolutions for local schools

**Thank you so much for joining us!**

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Our instagram ([youth\\_climate\\_action\\_now](https://www.instagram.com/youth_climate_action_now))

