

# Mission Possible: Building Strong Leaders

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The City of Rockwall took on the mission to build strong leaders and support youth empowerment across the state by organizing and hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) Summit on February 22-23, 2014. A record-setting 302 attendees, including 225 youth from 29 Texas cities, gathered in Rockwall to learn, laugh, grow, and be inspired.

Sponsored each year by the Texas Municipal League, the YAC Summit creates a venue for youth commissions to come together to share information and celebrate civic involvement. The summit also helps cultivate new youth commissions. Several attendees each year are city officials who hope to begin a youth commission in their city.

While the Rockwall City Council and staff were there to provide support, this year's host youth group, the Rockwall Youth Advisory Council, worked hard behind the scenes and center stage to make the summit a success. The youth truly hosted the Summit—from helping to develop the program to introducing speakers to onsite logistics.

And while Rockwall was busy hosting, the attendees enjoyed a heavyweight line up of keynote speakers and breakout sessions. Attendees laughed with comedian Michael Jr., were captivated by youth expert Josh Shipp, were inspired by Texas State Representative Scott Turner, and were

motivated by former baseball coach David Vince. Topics covered during the breakout sessions included self image, social media, entrepreneurship, leadership, and college life.

For more information about the YAC summit and TML's youth-related resources, visit the TML website, [www.tml.org](http://www.tml.org), or contact the TML Member Services Department at [members@tml.org](mailto:members@tml.org) or 512-231-7400.





### YAC Summit Charitable Giving Project

This year's summit included a charitable giving project. Summit attendees raised \$1,400 in contributions for the Blue Caboose Children's Fund. The organization is dedicated to improving the lives of children and their families living with cystic fibrosis.

**Mark your calendar now to attend the 2015 Texas Youth Advisory Commission Summit in Killeen on January 31-February 1.**