

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LA County Youth Commission Invites Community to Inaugural Virtual Meeting

The Los Angeles County Youth Commission will be conducting its first public virtual meeting on Thursday, September 23.

Youth, community members, agency partners, community-based organizations, and media partners are invited to join and learn more about the Youth Commission's goals and future.

"We are so excited to start the Commission's important work, and to have a greater impact; we need community collaboration. We hope community members and partners can join all future meetings to help improve the lives of systems impacted youth in LA County," said Angela Young, a Youth Commissioner from the Third Supervisorial District.

This inaugural meeting will offer an opportunity for members of the public to share their thoughts about the Commission's work. After this meeting, the Youth Commission will begin cataloging how County systems impact youth, while identifying new opportunities for service and care. The Commission will select its annual policy initiatives after bringing youth, community members, and County leaders together around this effort.

"We need to do better by the tens of thousands of children in both our foster care system and our juvenile justice system. But when we talk about changes, the perspective of the young people who grew up in these systems is too often the one that's missing," said Janice Hahn, Supervisor to the Fourth District. "The County's first Youth Commissioners are truly remarkable young people. These systems shaped their childhoods and many of them have dedicated their young lives to making sure the next generation doesn't have to face the same challenges they did. They have a lot to say, and I know we are going to learn a lot from them."

The inaugural 15 Youth Commissioners are: Daniel Bisuano, 3rd Supervisorial District, La'Toya Cooper, 2nd Supervisorial District, Joshua Elizondo, 3rd Supervisorial District, Alex Furtado, 1st Supervisorial District, Amanda Hernandez, 5th Supervisorial District, Jacob "Blacc" Jackson, 2nd Supervisorial District, Carla Lopez, 3rd Supervisorial District, Ricardo Ortega Martinez Jr., 5th Supervisorial District, Ezekiel Nishiyama, 4th Supervisorial District, Brittianna Robinson, 4th Supervisorial District, Jacqueline Robles, 4th Supervisorial District, Myriah Smiley, 2nd Supervisorial District, Luisa Flores Urrutia, 5th Supervisorial District, Florencia "Flo" Valenzuela, 1st Supervisorial District and Angela Young, 3rd Supervisorial District,

The meeting on Thursday, September 23 will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Zoom link:

 $\underline{https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83295284010?pwd=bXdoQVRqbDB3RHdvcWtxd3RDakIPdz09}$ 

Meeting ID: 832 9528 4010 Passcode: YC2021

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

To view the agenda and learn more about the Youth Commission, download the toolkit.

To keep up with future Youth Commission updates, visit YouthCommission.lacounty.gov

Email youthcommission@bos.lacounty.gov.

## **About the LA County Youth Commission**

Established in 2020 by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Youth Commission is the official youth advisory body to the County. It is a youth-led organization that promotes youth participation in County affairs and policy development. Youth Commissioners have experience in foster care, juvenile justice, and unhoused services. The Commission also provides a forum for youth perspectives, empowering commissioners to impact the systems intended to serve and support them, their families, and their communities.

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