

Massachusetts Youth Leadership Forum 2021 Conference Agenda

YLF 2021 Dates for All YLF Delegates and Peer Leaders:

Monday, June 14 – Monday, June 28, 2021

9 weekdays, 2pm-4pm

8 evening social activities/small groups: 6:30pm-7:30pm

Drop-In Parent Support Meetings: June 11, June 18, and June 28, 7pm-8:30pm

Zoom Link for All YLF Sessions: <https://zoom.us/j/96242775961>

Monday, June 14th, 2021

2pm- 2:30pm	Welcome to Virtual YLF! <i>Orientation and introductions</i> Reception <i>Speakers include Regina Snowden, PYD Founder & Executive Director; Kathleen Biebel, Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; Anna Hermann, Independent Living Programs Supervisor, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; Amanda Costa, Director of Consumer/Family Engagement, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission; Heidi Holland, Project Director, TSAI & STAY Young Adult Grants, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, and Paul Medeiros, Easter Seals President and CEO.</i>	Zoom
2:30pm- 4pm	Networking Workshop: Telling Your Story/Making Disability Your Advantage <i>Facilitated by Tari Hartman Squire, EIN SOF Communications; Lights! Camera! Access! (LCA); Derek Shields, LCA, National Disability Mentoring Coalition, ForwardWorks Consulting, and Maureen “Moe” Finnerty, Movement Director & Teaching Artist, VSA Massachusetts, Until Tomorrow Productions and Access to Theater.</i>	Zoom
4pm- 6:30pm	BREAK	
6:30pm- 7:30pm	Self-Care, Coping and Stress Management <i>Discussion and activities led by Jordan Lome</i>	Zoom

Tuesday, June 15th, 2021

<p>2pm-3pm</p>	<p>Conversations with Judith Heumann <i>Judith (Judy) Heumann is an internationally recognized disability advocate. She was featured in the documentary “Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution,” a 2020 American award-winning documentary film. She is also an author of her memoir, “Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist.” She is now the producer of The Heumann Perspective, a podcast and Youtube channel that aims to share the beauty of the disability community. Learn more at: https://judithheumann.com/</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>3pm-4pm</p>	<p>Discussion/Activities <i>Peer Leaders facilitate activities and discussions in large and small groups about the work of Judith Heumann and the power of telling your story!</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Trivia Night! <i>Led by Darryl Sanchez, Emma Kahn and Olivia Harris</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Wednesday, June 16th, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Easterseals Assistive Technology and The #TeachDisabilityHistory Campaign <i>First, YLF Delegates and Peer Leaders will learn about how you can use Assistive Technology to live, learn work, and play. This will be followed by a game led by young adults working with Easterseals on the #TeachDisabilityHistory campaign.</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Songwriting Workshop <i>Led by Deep Chinappa</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Thursday, June 17th, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Self-Advocacy Workshop <i>Presented by trainers from the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council, this workshop will be packed with information and interactive activities in large and small groups exploring the topic of self-advocacy.</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Small Group meetings led by Peer Leaders <i>Led by YLF Peer Leaders, participants will discuss an area where advocacy is needed to improve the lives of people with disabilities and prepare to present ideas during next week's Legislative Panel.</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Monday, June 21st, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Job Search and Networking Workshop <i>Presented by PYD's Career Readiness program staff, participants will learn in large and small groups about resources and tools available to help find jobs and learn about networking and how it relates to professional communication.</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Movie Night! <i>Liz Pritchard, disability activist, filmmaker and artist, will screen a viewing of her short film, "My Superpower" (a 2020 Easterseals Disability Film Challenge Entry) and will lead a discussion and art activity. Check out the film in advance at this link:</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9R3Kv6HXq_Y <i>Learn more about Liz Pritchard at this link:</i> https://ndmc.pyd.org/hall-of-fame/class-of-2020/Liz-Pritchard/</p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Interview Workshop Presented by PYD's Career Readiness program staff, this workshop will include information and activities in large and small groups focused on interview behavior, etiquette, attire, questions, and more! We will also discuss expectations for tomorrow's Career Mentoring Virtual Luncheon.</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Small Group meetings led by Peer Leaders</p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Wednesday, June 23rd, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Career Mentoring Virtual Luncheon! After a keynote presentation, participants will meet and network with employees and employers representing a variety of careers and employment and will be assigned to small groups to connect with mentors based on career interests.</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Open Mic! Hosted by Deep Chinappa and Moe Finnerty from Access to Theater. Get ready to share your creativity through any medium, such as song, poem, rap, skit, or dance!</p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Thursday, June 24th, 2021

<p>2pm-4pm</p>	<p>Legislative Advocacy: Panel Presentation and Interactive Discussion <i>Youth will hear from a diverse panel involved in different aspects of policy and advocacy. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions and present ideas on areas where advocacy is needed to improve the lives of people with disabilities. Background information about the panel will be shared in advance.</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>4pm-6:30pm</p>	<p>BREAK</p>	
<p>6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>Activity: Late Night with YLF Alumni: <i>Hangout with a panel of past YLF peer leaders/alumni</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>

Monday, June 28th, 2021

<p>2pm-3:30pm</p>	<p>YLF Resource Fair! <i>Gather information from a wide array of resources as you learn about community agencies, events, programs, and resources in large and small groups during our interactive Resource Fair! Earn prizes by participating in the Resource Fair activities and games!</i></p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>3:30pm-4pm</p>	<p>Reflection Ceremony and Certificates Reminder to complete virtual YLF surveys</p>	<p>Zoom</p>

For Parents Only: Drop-In Parent Support Meetings/ Presentations *Coordinated by Parent Support Specialist Lisa Jennings*

Join Using Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/96242775961>

- Friday, June 11, 2021, 7pm-8:30pm
- Friday, June 18, 2021, 7pm-8:30pm
- Monday, June 28, 2021, 7pm-8:30pm