

Clemence Youth Foundation (CYF) Austin Trip

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Clemence Youth Foundation was founded May of 2021 and serves as an outreach for youth to help build character, take ownership in striving to pursue their dreams, and provide them with the necessary tools in becoming a person valuable to society. On August fifth through sixth, CYF brought 80 of its members to Austin. We went to Austin, Texas and explored the city while learning about its significance in Texas legislation. For many members, this trip helped deepen their knowledge on how the laws are made here in our great state. The trip was fun while also being educational and left everyone with great memories.



Our first stop was the Texas Capitol building. The foundation first enjoyed a tour of the beautiful Capitol and learned about Texas history, its past leaders, and even the building itself. We also visited a courtroom in the Capitol where the representatives from Sen. Huffman's office and Sen. Kolkhorst's office spoke to us about their daily jobs and politics. In the end, we even got to ask questions. We ended our tour at the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and Supreme Court of Texas. There, Judge David Newell and Justice Evan Young gave us an insight into their jobs. Judge Newell talked about his experience of getting elected to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals while Justice Young informed us about the Texas constitution and explained the importance of researching before voting; he even asked everyone to make an oath to never blindly vote for a candidate. The visit to the Capitol was both educational and beautiful.

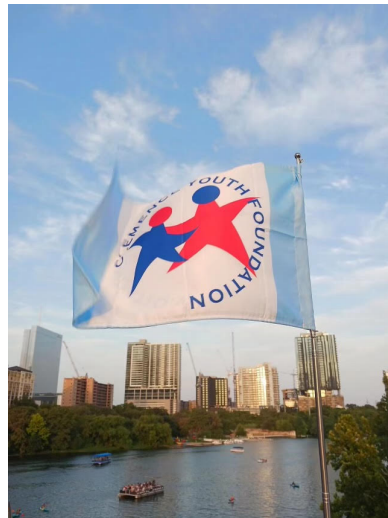


Aside from the capitol building, we also went to the University of Texas. Lucy, a member of the Clemence Youth Foundation, led the group on a tour throughout the school. Her insider knowledge helped us see a glimpse into everyday life at UT. The campus was so beautiful and amazing to be in. She took us to the campus library, dorms, and cafeteria. Her experience of what college life is like at UT made the tour even more engaging. The trip was a great experience, and motivation to study hard. The tour was a very insightful experience that everyone enjoyed.



Following the college tour, we went to the Blanton Museum of Art. We visited four exhibits with various beautiful masterpieces. The foundation got to explore many forms of art and expressions. These included sculptures, paintings, artifacts, and various other displays of art. Students visiting these museums introduces them to fine arts and educates the public.

We also went kayaking at the Colorado River. The kids and adults had so much fun paddling their own kayaks along the gorgeous water. The river was a great way to cool off from the terrible Texas heat all day. Having fun with friends and family truly made the trip a wonderful experience. The boating officially ended off the Austin trip.



This experience was a great learning opportunity for the youth foundation. The kids gained much more knowledge about their future college life, the legislative system, Texas Judicial system, etc, and even boating skills!

We would like to give a special thank you to JingJing Clemence along with all the Clemence Youth Foundation leaders and volunteers for arranging this amazing trip. A special thank you to State Representatives Jacey Jetton and Gene Wu, Senators Huffman and Kolkhorst, Judge David Newell, and Justice Evan Young for making this visit both educational and interesting with their wonderful and engaging speeches.