THE 46th ANNUAL NATIONAL NAT

YOUNG AMERICA'S FOUNDATION WASHINGTON, D.C. | JULY 22-27, 2024

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CONFERENCE SPEAKERS















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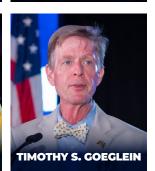






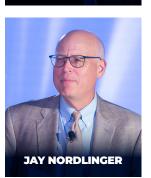














THE 46TH 600+ PARTICIPANTS 252 COLLEGES 41 STATES 9 COUNTRIES



"Right now, it's a battle between worldviews. We need to know in a time like this exactly what we believe because I think we need to speak with clarity, conviction, and consistency more than we ever have before."

Mike Johnson 56th Speaker of the House

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson headlined the 46th National Conservative Student Conference (NCSC), educating students on the seven core principles of American conservatism. He was one of 25 fantastic conservative speakers that students had the privilege of engaging with throughout the week.

For the last 46 years, the National Conservative Student Conference has trained and inspired young people to go back to their campuses and stand boldly for their conservative principles. Young America's Foundation's long history of success is continued through the dedication of the students, speakers, and supporters that make this event possible.

This summer, YAF welcomed more than 600 in-person participants to our nation's capital for the 46th Annual National Conservative Student Conference. At the week-long conference, students from 252 colleges, 41 states, and nine countries participated in an extraordinary week. Digital content from NCSC extended the reach of the program beyond the audience in D.C. to YAF's millions of online followers.



During the week, students heard from top leaders in the Conservative Movement, expanded their network of conservative friends, and engaged in lively discussions of the most pressing issues facing our nation. Rebekah Hodgkins, a student from the University of Nations said, "I loved every speaker, the variety of topics covered was so helpful to me! I was so encouraged to speak with so many people about ways to stand up for our generation." Students like Rebekah are exposed to more conservative voices than they will hear in their entire academic career during this crucial conference. Question-and-answer sessions with speakers are one of the major opportunities to sharpen their arguments and refine their understanding of today's public policy issues.

The opening dinner on Monday featured YAF President **Governor Scott Walker**, who thanked the students for bravely standing up for their values on their campuses. He stated:

"On your college campus, you get plenty of attacks from the other side and plenty of chances to hear opposing views. You need people around you who support you and lift you up."

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After Governor Walker's speech, students had the special opportunity to take a walking tour of the National Mall.

Day two of the program commenced with a speech from Congresswoman **Mariannette Miller-Meeks** (IA-01). The students also gained valuable insights from author and commentator **Vince Everett Ellison**; author and professor **Dr. Carl R. Trueman**; podcast host **Seth Gruber**; and Princeton University professor **Dr. Robert George**, who was interviewed by Governor Walker.

Tuesday concluded with an inspirational dinner banquet featuring 56th Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives **Mike Johnson**.

Several hundred YAF alumni and supporters also attended the dinner banquet, which included a presentation of the Foundation's annual Alumni Awards to Reagan Ranch Board of Governors members **George Dunlop** & **Becky Norton Dunlop**, YAF Vice President **Patrick Coyle**, and the family of the late **Thomas L. Phillips**.

Congresswoman **Kat Cammack** (FL-03), cofounder of YAF's Campus Free Speech Caucus, took to the stage on Wednesday to discuss the increasing radicalization of our campuses and the pro-Hamas protests this past spring.





Students also heard from *National Review* Senior Editor **Jay Nordlinger**; entrepreneur and free speech advocate **Ann Atkinson**; detransitioner **Chloe Cole**; and NJC Board of Governors member and talk radio host **Larry O'Connor**.

New York Times bestselling author and PragerU Founder **Dennis Prager** headlined the Wednesday evening banquet, noting,

"The Left is the opposite of everything I am offering you this evening. They teach people that the greatest problem in their life is others."

Thursday featured a special edition of YAF's Buckley Breakfast series featuring Congressman **Jim Jordan** (OH-04), co-chairman of YAF's Campus Free Speech Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives. Additional speakers included commentator **Elisha Krauss**; YAF alumnus and *Breitbart* News Editor-in-Chief **Alex Marlow**; Focus on the Family Vice President and Reagan Ranch Board of Governors member **Tim Goeglein**; and historian and author **Dr. Burt Folsom**.

North Korean defector **Yeonmi Park** spoke at the Thursday dinner banquet, underscoring the dangers of socialism and sharing her first-hand experiences escaping a brutal communist regime in her home country. The final day featured remarks from Congressman **Chip Roy** (TX-21); Independent Women's Forum Ambassador **Paula Scanlan**; YAF alumnus and 48th Attorney General of Virginia **Jason Miyares**; and Babylon Bee CEO **Seth Dillon**.

The Clare Boothe Luce Center for Conservative Women hosted a special women's luncheon featuring **Erin Hawley**, senior counsel at Alliance Defending Freedom and wife of U.S. Senator **Josh Hawley**.

Students also engaged in breakout sessions on key topics with leading conservatives throughout the week. *Newsweek*'s **Josh Hammer** underscored the importance of supporting Israel in the war against Hamas; Breitbart's **Emma-Jo Morris**, **Jerome Hudson**, and **Bradley Jaye** outlined how to advance conservative ideas in popular culture; YAF's **Charlie Jones** and **Hunter Morrow** led an activism training session; and members of the Pack family—creators of an upcoming documentary about Justice Clarence Thomas—provided a crash-course in documentary filmmaking and storytelling.

The final dinner banquet of the week featured **Lieutenant Colonel Allen West**, who instructed students to take strong action to preserve our freedom.

In addition to inspiring speakers, the conference offered many memorable activities, including latenight bull sessions, walking and jogging tours of the National Mall, and YAF networking receptions.

Young America's Foundation is especially grateful to the Challenge Foundation, Richard Gaby & Barbara Van Andel-Gaby, Isaac I. Foundation, and Larry Polhill for their lead gifts to make this lifechanging program possible.





like this, you really see the future of America— people who are thoughtful... are passionate and are willing to step up and do the inconvenient thing.

KAT CAMMACK CONGRESSWOMAN



I appreciate how these conferences can be so inspiring, and you can go back with a lot of confidence in your view and speak it throughout your classroom; it takes just one person speaking the truth in your classroom to maybe convince a lot more.

> **Travis Morgan** Empire College of Law

[Thank you] from a small farm boy from Minnesota who never thought that he'd would be able to go to the capital of this nation. So, I want to thank you very much. God bless you and God bless America.

> *William Carlson* University of Wisconsin-Superior





I am so grateful to be here. Thank you to all of the supporters of YAF for making this all happen. I really appreciate it and know everyone else does here too.

> **Avery Durfee** University of North Dakota



I owe so much to the donors that made it possible for me to be here. I was thrilled the second I learned I could attend, and the conference still exceeded my expectations!... I would like the financial supporters to know they have changed my life for the better this week.

> William Ellzey Los Angeles Pacific University

I am so grateful for their support, as it allows me to learn powerful tools to advance the Conservative Movement and become the generation to put American culture back on track.

> **Kylie Gillis** University of Florida





This was a really encouraging event. As someone interested in pursuing a career in politics and government, this conference has given me confidence, new connections, and strong arguments to utilize in the future. Thank you!

> **Anna La Pour** Union University

I am thankful that I was given the unique opportunity to come to DC and hear from the major leaders in the Conservative Movement. I am more motivated than ever to spread conservative ideas and thoughts on my campus going forward.

> **Cameron Beckmeyer** Hardin-Simmons University





This is my third time [coming to NCSC] and it's been amazing as always. Thank you so much for giving this opportunity to make incredible memories with friends and meet likeminded people.

Deniel Marín University of Puerto Rico at Utuado

Before attending YAF, I felt lost and uncertain about my future, not knowing what direction to take or what possibilities were available to me. However, YAF has opened up a universe of endless opportunities, and I couldn't be more excited about the journey ahead.... Your support has truly made a world of difference for us.

Bonita-Rose Villafana Perez Florida SouthWestern College



Shank you indefinitly for your generous support. il truly enjoyed every moment I was at this conference and il know il are leaving with a better understanding of the values it hold so clear. You have helped me immensely in oreating connections that it know will last a lifetime. I can hardly whit to go back to my school and start educating my pers. il will always treasure this experience. Yours Truly, your Charge Streeine

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Yours Truly,

Mary Catherine SUNY at Fredonia











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