



# COUNTY OF YOLO

ELECTIONS OFFICE

625 COURT STREET, ROOM B-05, WOODLAND CA 95695

(P) 530.666.8133 (F) 530.666.8123

**JESSE SALINAS**

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Katharine Campos

Program Manager

(530) 666-8132

9/11/2018

## Youth Empowerment Summit “YES!” Attracts Attention Statewide

Woodland, CA – In March 2018, 74 high school students from Yolo County gathered at Woodland Community College for the Youth Empowerment Summit, an event that empowers and encourages youth to say “YES!” to leadership and civic engagement in their local communities. “YES!” is a collaboration between the Yolo County Elections Office, the Woodland Public Library’s Teen Advisory Board, the League of Women Voters, the Yolo County Office of Education, the Early Academic Outreach Program at UC Davis and Woodland Community College.

### 2018 “YES!” Event





# COUNTY OF YOLO

ELECTIONS OFFICE  
625 COURT STREET, ROOM B-05, WOODLAND CA 95695  
(P) 530.666.8133 (F) 530.666.8123

**JESSE SALINAS**  
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



At the summit youth had the opportunity to speak directly with 22 elected officials (ranging from school board members, city council members and various county officials) about community issues that matter most to them. Participants were given a survey before and after the Youth Empowerment Summit and the results were remarkable:

**I understand how local government functions and the role of elected officials.**

	PRE Event	POST Event
Agree	11%	68%
Strongly Agree	40%	30%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>98%</b>

**I feel comfortable contacting and talking to elected officials about community issues.**

	PRE Event	POST Event
Agree	2%	44%
Strongly Agree	37%	49%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>93%</b>

**I feel like my voice matters and that elected officials respect my opinions.**

	PRE Event	POST Event
Agree	45%	37%
Strongly Agree	23%	63%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>100%</b>

The model and success of the Yolo County Youth Empowerment Summit is gaining statewide attention. Many heard about the program in July when Jesse Salinas, Yolo County Clerk/Recorder/Assessor and Registrar of Voters was asked to present on “YES!” during the best new ideas session at the CACEO (California Association of Clerks and Election Officials) conference in Long Beach. Election officials and community partners are calling the program groundbreaking and are looking to possibly replicate the program in other parts of the state.

In addition to the organizations involved in the Youth Empowerment Summit, the event was made possible and supported by the local community. Local donations were provided by several local organizations including the Rotary Club of Davis, Davis Odd Fellows Lodge #169 and the Davis Rebekah Lodge #253. Other donations were made by private individuals including Bob Segar, Jenifer Segar, John Mott-Smith, Randy Beaton, Sid England and Susan Shelton, along with other in-kind anonymous individual donations. Hart InterCivic, an election equipment vendor helped facilitate a mock election at the event and donated



# COUNTY OF YOLO

## ELECTIONS OFFICE

625 COURT STREET, ROOM B-05, WOODLAND CA 95695

(P) 530.666.8133 (F) 530.666.8123

**JESSE SALINAS**

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



polo shirts. Several community partners and volunteers also offered their time to help facilitate the event. It truly was a community wide effort and was widely successful. We are confident we will continue to promote the importance of civic engagement for many years to come!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Youth Empowerment Summit will be held March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Woodland Community College and planning is already underway!

If you would like to donate to this exciting event please visit: [www.YoloCounty.org/donations](http://www.YoloCounty.org/donations). Please contact Katharine Campos at 530-666-8132 with questions or inquiries on how to engage youth with “YES!”.

Connect with Yolo County ACE – Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Elections on Facebook: [/YoloACE](https://www.facebook.com/YoloACE), Instagram: [/YoloCoACE](https://www.instagram.com/YoloCoACE), and Twitter: [@YoloCoACE](https://twitter.com/YoloCoACE) to stay informed on “YES!”, future events and live election night results for the November 6, 2018 election.

\* \* \*