



Agenda at-a-Glance: June 20 – July 19, 2021

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is National 4-H Council's premier leadership and civic engagement experience for high school age students. This year's all-virtual program will take place once a week, for five weeks, beginning Sunday, June 20, 2021.

CWF is the perfect place to make new friends, connect with other young leaders from across the country and have fun, all while gaining the skills you'll need to use your voice to solve problems and create change, right here, right now.

All sessions will be virtual. Times listed below are Eastern Standard Time.

Week 1 – Empathy, Active Listening, and Civil Discourse

(June 20 & 21)

The first week of CWF will focus on why civil discourse is vital to becoming engaged and effective members of our communities. Kick off your CWF experience with a healthy discussion about what we can do to revive civility and respect in our community while solving problems and working collaboratively.

6:00 – 6:30 pm: Welcome and Program Overview

Freeman Thompson, Director of Educational Opportunities, National 4-H Council and the CWF Program Assistant Team

Learn what you can expect during this five-week program and how you can make the most of your CWF experience.

- Meet the CWF Program Assistant Team



6:30- 7:00 pm: 4-H Alumni Spotlight

Invited Speaker: Nicole, "Nikki" Clifton, President, Social Impact and the UPS Foundation; Georgia 4-H Alumna

As the President of the UPS Foundation, Nikki is responsible for leading corporate social responsibility initiatives and navigating challenges and opportunities to help build safer, more resilient and inclusive communities around the world. Her career in changemaking, however, started as a Georgia 4-Her. She will speak to us about the importance of being engaged in our communities and how important your voice is!

7:00 – 7:15 pm: Break

7:15 – 8:15 pm: Active Listening & Civil Discourse Workshop

This workshop will set the stage for the virtual CWF experience, fostering an atmosphere of civil discourse while promoting the understanding of differences.

- Learn to listen and build relationships, especially with people of different views.
- Start to see each other as people first and foremost, before any of the political thinking enters the conversation.
- Introduce participants to the "Town Hall" and allow them to contribute to brainstorming for topics and questions.

8:15 – 8:45 pm: State Planning/Debriefing Time

Each week, you'll reconvene with your state delegation at the end of the night to discuss the topics of the day and receive your assignments to prepare for the week ahead.

Week 2 – Media Literacy

(June 27 & 28)

After exploring the tools and techniques you can use to engage in productive and positive dialogue, especially when opinions are polarized, the second week of CWF will focus on ways to be well informed as you prepare for constructive conversation and problem solving. We'll dive into practices for being responsible users of technology and critical consumers of the media you will use in your own communications and advocacy.

6:00 - 6:15 pm: Opening Session and Overview

Freeman Thompson, Director of Educational Opportunities

A brief introduction of the week's work and what to expect from this week's workshops.



6:15 – 7:00 pm: Media Panel: How does the news affect the way we understand our world?

Facilitated by Mary Snapp, VP, Strategic Initiatives, Office of the President, Microsoft Corporation

The landscape of media and how we receive our news has changed dramatically in our lifetimes. This also changes the way our news is developed. This panel will allow you to get insights on the current state of media and how we can become better informed in the 21st century.

- **Invited Panelists include:**

- *Wesley Lowery, Correspondent 60 Minutes+/CBS*
- *Danielle Tiedt, Chief Marketing Officer, YouTube*
- *Sergio Martínez Beltrán, Political Reporter, WPLN News, Nashville Public Radio*

7:00 – 7:15 pm: Break

7:15 – 8:00 pm: Media Literacy Workshop

Journalist Linda Ellerbee once said that media literacy will “make the difference between whether kids are a tool of the mass media or whether the mass media is a tool for kids to use.” In this session, we’ll explore tools and strategies for being an empowered consumer and user of media, especially in today’s digital world. We’ll also think together about real world applications to your own change initiatives.

- Introduce the SIFT (**S**top, **I**nvestigate the source, **F**ind other coverage, **T**race to original) method of evaluating media.
- Use SIFT to evaluate popular sources of misinformation.

8:00 – 8:15 pm: Intro to Action Plans

Freeman Thompson and the CWF Program Assistant Team

Developing an action plan is vital to making change in your community and is the lifeblood of the CWF program. Learn about the virtual CWF action plan process, and how you’ll work with your community to make change.

8:15 – 8:45 pm: State Planning Time

Debrief the day and start the action planning process with your state delegation.

Week 3 – Representative Government

(July 5 & 6)

This week will focus on discussing topics that we may disagree on, while also understanding not only the role that government plays in shaping legislation, but also how we, as citizens, can begin to use our voices to influence the legislative process.

6:00 - 6:15 pm: Opening Session and Overview

Freeman Thompson, Director of Educational Opportunities

A brief introduction of the week's work and what to expect from this week's workshops.

6:15 – 6:45 pm: 4-H Alumni Spotlight

Invited Speaker: Stanley Celestine, Jr., Executive Director, The Forum for Opportunity Youth, Member, Avoyelles Parish School Board, Louisiana 4-H Alumnus

At 19 years old, Stanley saw no need to wait before leading opportunity youth work in his Louisiana parish! As the youngest school board member elected in his state, Stanley ran after he didn't hear the students being mentioned during school board meetings he attended. He will speak on his passion for using his voice while making sure that all constituencies are represented.

6:45 – 7:30 pm: Town Hall

This session is your opportunity to connect the dots from the first two weeks of the program. You've explored the tools for civil discourse and the ways you can responsibly use the media to inform and promote your ideas. This Town Hall will offer delegates the opportunity try out their new skills as they share their views on important national topics in a supportive, small group format with peers from all over the nation. Delegates will:

- Use active listening and media literacy skills to discuss national issues;
- Recognize how different geographic, demographic, and lived experiences may inform legitimate differences on a variety of national issues, and
- Come away with a broader understanding of many of the important issues facing our country today.

7:30 – 7:45 pm: Break



7:45 – 8:30 pm: Representative Government in Action

This workshop will explore how legislators make decisions for their constituents and how to identify which legislative bodies oversee specific issues. Learn about the importance of local government.

- Identify the major factors influencing how legislators make public policy decisions.
- Analyze examples of how legislators weigh the factors to make decisions on public policy issues.
- Identify ways that local & state governments affect our lives.
- Identify which legislative bodies make decisions on specific issues.

8:30 – 9:00 pm: State Planning Time

Debrief the day and continue the action planning process with your state delegation.

Week 4 – Local Government & Making Change

(July 11 & 12)

This week, we will explore how students can build an Action Plan in partnership with government entities and will analyze real-life examples of how similar initiatives have spurred public policy change.

6:00 - 6:15 pm: Opening Session and Overview

Freeman Thompson

A brief introduction of the week's work and what to expect from this week's workshops.

6:15 – 6:45 pm: 4-H Alumni Spotlight

Invited Speaker: Colleen McCreary, Chief People, Places and Publicity Officer, Credit Karma, Florida 4-H Alumna

Colleen has a vast career in change making and being on the forefront of diversifying many of the organizations that she has worked for. Her passion for changemaking started in Florida 4-H, eventually leading her to become a CWF Program Assistant! She will speak on how important making plans of action are and how her experiences as a 4-Her helped her throughout her career!

6:45 – 7:30 pm: Local Engagement Workshop

This workshop will explore how students can identify stakeholders within government entities and will simulate the issues surrounding how policy is eventually made.

- Defining public policy.
- Identify action and regulation as two types of public policy.
- Explain how real-life actions involve the government, groups, and individuals.

7:30 – 7:45 pm: Break

7:45 – 8:30 pm: Final State Planning Time

This will be the last time you have with your state delegation to work on your Action Plans before next week's symposium.

Week 5 – Action Plan Symposium

(July 18 & 19)

This week, we will celebrate the end of the course, by sharing action plans and giving feedback on the ways that young people can affect change in their communities.

6:00 - 6:15 pm: Opening Session and Overview

A brief introduction of the week's work and what to expect from the day's workshops

6:15 – 6:45 pm: CWF Capnote Address

2021 Youth in Action Award Winners

As you prepare to embark on your Action Plan journey, you'll receive insight and encouragement from one of our Youth in Action award winners. These young people have taken action and have left a mark on their communities in various ways. Whether it is in STEM, Agriculture, or Healthy Living, all of these young people have engaged in ways that they can engage their communities.

6:45 – 7:30 pm: Action Plan Presentations

- Delegations will have the opportunity to present their action plans in 5 minute pitches, with Q&A from other delegations and stakeholders

7:30 – 7:45 pm: Break



7:45 – 8:30 pm: Action Plan Presentations Pt. 2

Delegations will have the opportunity to present their action plans in 5 minute pitches, with Q&A from other delegations and stakeholders.

8:30 – 9:00 pm: Closing Ceremony