

Welcome & Opening Circle

All delegates and trainers give introductions in a full group, play name games and energizers, review the agenda for the summit and the day, come to understand expectations and roles for both delegates and trainers, and brainstorm then choose group ground rules. Opening circles are held each day.

Introduction to AYEA

Delegates and Trainers share two words! One word on how they see their community, then one word on how others see their community. We then dive into the history of AYEA and come to understand our place in AYEA as current delegates and trainers.

Intro to the Alaska State Legislature

Delegates will deepen their understanding of the Alaska State Legislature and how a bill becomes a law. Together, we will map out the structure, history, and function of the Alaska State Legislature and sift through resources to support our exploration of the legislative process.

Decolonization of the Conservation Movement

The conservation movement has a long and complicated history. Together, we will begin to examine and take apart some of the oppressive power at play and learn the basics of environmental justice.

The Power of Storytelling & Your Story of Self

Your personal story is a powerful organizing tool! When you learn how to tell your story, you can engage new people, inspire and build trust with others, and activate community members to take action with you. During this workshop, delegates will learn a structure to tell their stories in a way that invites others to join in the action.

Welcome to Juneau!

Juneau, our state capitol, lies on Lingit Aani, or Lingit lands. As we get started learning on these lands, it's important to learn about the history, culture, and traditions of the local communities. We will hear from community leaders and learn how Juneau came to be.

Focus Bill Session 1

Delegates will hear an overview of the focus bills by the trainers. Then, delegates will self-select the focus bill they would like to concentrate on for the duration of the summit and in constituent meetings.

Who Represents Me?

Delegates will identify which district they live in and who their legislators are. Delegates will then take some time to explore legislator bios and note interesting facts in preparation for constituent meetings.

How to Read a Bill

Using BASIS, a tool for Alaskans to understand bills, delegates will learn how to read a bill and track its progress through the legislative bodies on akleg.gov.

Focus Bill Session II: First Impressions & Presentations

By meeting with focus bill sponsors (or legislators the bill would affect) in groups earlier in the summit, delegates will gather their first impressions of their focus bills. They will then share their impressions with fellow delegates in informal presentations.

Culture Share

Each year we designate one evening to a “cultural sharing” session where teens have the time to share a song they know, tell a story (about their family, travel, etc.), perform a dance, pass around photos or objects, read a poem, etc. Everyone has a culture and has insights to their culture that others benefit from! Participation is strongly encouraged!

Messaging & Persuasion Tips

It can be difficult to convince someone of something you believe in. In this workshop, we will learn tips for persuasion to try in upcoming constituent meetings.

Just Transition

Delegates will explore the Just Transition Framework, a way to strive for justice created by laborers and BIPOC communities that see the first environmental injustices from pollution, climate change, habitat damage, unsafe working conditions, and more.

Talking to legislators & navigating systems of power

Often, young people are not considered or are ignored within systems of power. Additionally, there are many unspoken rules of behavior and etiquette observed in the capitol. Delegates will learn how to navigate these challenges while staying true to themselves.

Rotating Workshops: Effective Public Testimony, Direct Action, Know Your Rights, Letters to Lawmakers

A constituent meeting is not the only way to make your voice heard on a given bill or issue. In addition to meeting with legislators, constituents can give public testimony, engage in direct action, or write a letter to their lawmaker. Delegates will learn their rights to take action and some available avenues for change.

Focus Bill Session III

In the third and final focus bill prep session, delegates will explore different scenarios that could take place during their constituent meeting. This session is also an opportunity to finalize talking points and assign roles.

Focus Bill Group IV: Debriefing Legislative Appointments

A debrief is just as important as the preparation and consistent meeting itself. How did the meeting go? What are the next steps to continue advocating on this focus bill? How can delegates continue their advocacy back home?

Rotating Workshops: Letter to the Editors, Talking to the Media, Public Speaking

A huge part of getting the message out there is engagement with the media. In this session, delegates will have the opportunity to practice writing letters to the editor and identify opportunities for publishing. Delegates will also learn how to talk to the media and get some tips for public speaking.