

Advice for working with youth, created by youth 15-18 in King County

<p>Don't use youth as decoration, as photos on your brochure or to present to a board or fundraiser once a year</p>	<p>Youth voice opportunities should be mutually beneficial: they should transform a board or organizations practices, but also build skills for youth & open doors</p>
<p>Youth voice opportunities should be thoughtfully planned and supported: they shouldn't be last minute or unorganized. Youth should be contributing in meaningful ways</p>	<p>Shared power and respectful interactions between youth and adults: youth shouldn't be treated as little kids or cute or funny, they should be values as members of the team with real experiences and valuable contributions</p>
<p>Youth contributions need to be honored and recognized: they should be paid or stipended or given school credit</p>	<p>Relationships matter: youth will participate if adults are respectful and make connections</p>
<p>Clear communication: we want to know what we are doing and why. We want to be supported. Don't give us a project and walk away</p>	<p>Projects with clear goals and timelines: we are balancing families, school, jobs, and extra curricular activities... we want to know what to expect from an internship or board opportunity before it starts</p>
<p>Provide support, resources and answers. Young people stay engaged when they are being engaged.</p>	<p>Give us opportunities to lead. Step back and share power.</p>
<p>Respect and trust youth leadership: we have been a part of many adult-led projects & programs our whole life, we know what does & doesn't work! Let us help make your programs stronger</p>	<p>Provide opportunities for feedback: we want to make opportunities for youth bigger and better, but we need a way to give feedback about what the experience was like.</p>

