



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Governor Elaine Beulick

Youth in Government Participants,

I would like to be the first to welcome and congratulate you for being selected to attend the Clark State Convention this year! We have been planning the convention for months and cannot wait for the time to arrive! Executive, Legislative, Judicial, CLI, Video News, and Print Press all have great programs planned.

There are a few reminders I would like to address so as you prepare and pack for the convention, you do not miss anything. The first is Capitol Dress. Remember we will be in a professional setting for the long weekend and it is a privilege that we can use the government buildings. Not only do we need to respect the facilities, appropriate dress is a must. Gentlemen must wear a sport coat/suit/blazer and tie/bow tie. Ladies must wear appropriate length dresses/skirts and blazers. I encourage you to bring a bag to carry your binders and notepads in as well so nothing gets lost as sometimes we can be rushed.

Another reminder is to bring comfortable walking shoes, this is especially for ladies. We will be frequently walking back and forth between the hotel and Capitol, and you will have time to change your shoes quickly before sessions begin. One last reminder is that it will be cold. In years past it has snowed so be sure to bring a coat and gloves since the building we can use to cut through to the Capitol closes on the weekend.

I hope you are excited for the conference! This year we will be participating in a fun service project throughout the conference; we also have a surprise for everyone during the yigster.

If you have any questions do not be afraid to contact me! See you all this winter.

Sincerely,

Governor Elaine Beulick



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Lieutenant Governor Hannah White

Dear Senators,

Hello, and welcome to the senate of the Youth in Government Clark Convention! I am very excited about this year and getting to know each of you over our three days together! I hope you all have been preparing for another awesome year at YIG!

I am a proud member of the Lee's Summit North delegation, and this year will be my fourth and last YIG convention. I have participated in the legislative program for all four years. My first two years in the house, and last two in the senate.

My favorite thing about YIG is debating bills! I love hearing the ideas people come up with each year and seeing the hard work delegates put into writing and arguing their bills. For delegates who may be participating in the legislative program for the first time, I hope you find the senate to be a place where you can freely express your opinions! One wall of the senate reads, "Free and fair discussion will ever be found the firmest friend to truth." This inspiring quote models the essence of YIG, and of the senate.

My advice to everyone is to speak up when you have an opinion or feel passionate about something! YIG will be so much more rewarding if you do. You all are awesome and I can't wait to be in the senate with you this year!

Sincerely,

Hannah White
Lieutenant Governor



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Speaker of the House Kristin Vandeven

Welcome to YIG 2014,

I hope you are all as excited as I am to kick off another great year! I'm Kristin Vandeven and I will be your Speaker of the House this year. I hope that you all benefit from this program as much as I have these past few years!

New YIG members don't be afraid to speak up and get involved! Feel free to ask me any questions you have regarding YIG Bills, Parliamentary Procedure or anything else. I Hope that this year you have fun, make new friends, and learn about how the government works.

As Speaker, I will encourage interesting bill debate and try to help us get through as many bills as possible. I know you've all been working hard so good luck this year!

I look forward to meeting you,

Speaker Kristin Vandeven



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Chief Justice Annelise Gill-Wiehl

Dear Judicial delegate,

I am Annelise Gill-Wiehl and am your Chief justice for this year's YIG Clark State Convention! I hope you are looking forward to the convention as it approaches. Michelle Onder, your attorney general, and I are head of the Judicial branch so feel free to ask either of us any questions before, during or even after the convention. We will be happy to help you. The other judges and I will also be delighted to help you with both your school and moot trial. For the school trial, please remember to bring your brief with you to the convention.

The following are a few helpful tips to write a successful brief:

- (1) Organize your thoughts and arguments well,
- (2) attempt to cite case-law to strengthen your argument,
- (3) apply the case-law to the facts of your case, and finally
- (4) do not be afraid to ask for help. After writing the brief, you are free to start on your opening statements, direct examination questions, cross examination questions, and closing statements.

With these tips in mind, I am positive everyone will be very prepared for this convention. I am excited to meet you and have a great Clark State convention. Again, feel free to ask me or Michelle any questions.

Thank you and I look forward to meeting you in December!

Annelise Gill-Wiehl

Chief Justice Annelise Gill-Wiehl



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Secretary of State Katie Graves

Hello CLI delegates,

My name is Katie Graves from the Pembroke Hill Delegation, and I am your secretary of state this year. I have participated in Youth in Government for four years now in both the legislative and judicial branches.

As middle schoolers, I hope you know you have as much of a voice in this program as the high school delegates. I encourage you to participate, state your opinions, and listen to others' ideas. Don't be afraid to ask questions or collaborate with your fellow delegates. You are the future of Youth in Government.

We appreciate you very much because you are willing to speak about important issues.

This weekend is a learning experience, and so it is okay to make mistakes. Don't take your time here for granted because this weekend flies by.

I look forward to meeting you,

Secretary of State Katie Graves



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Attorney General Michelle Onder

Dear Judicial Delegates,

Welcome to Missouri Youth in Government 2014! My name is Michelle Onder and I will be serving you as Attorney General this year. I would like to thank you for your participation in this amazing program. I eagerly look forward to meeting all of you this December! I trust that you will enjoy your experience this year! Whether this is your first year or your fourth, there is always so much to learn about government and about ourselves through YIG. For me, these are some of the most important lessons I have learned:

- Do not be afraid to ask questions. The more you ask, the more you will learn.
- See both sides of a case before jumping into an argument. Use both understanding and reasoning to prove any point you want to make.
- Be bold. If you sound confident in what you are saying, your argument will be much more effective. Do not be afraid to stand up and object.
- When the trial is over, it is over. You have the opportunity to form friendships with the people against whom you just tried a case. Take time to meet people from different grades, schools, towns, and cities.
- Preparation makes for the best trials.

This year I will strive to do all of those things and I encourage you to do the same! One of the most important things before the conference is preparation. When we arrive at the conference, we will kick off with the Attorney General trial to give you a sample of how a trial runs, how to object, and things like that. However, you should have a good idea before you come as well. Make sure to read over resources and prepare:

- Your brief
- Motion in Limines
- Opening Statements
- Direct Examinations
- Cross Examinations
- Outline of Closing Statement
- Understand objections and be comfortable doing so. It makes the trials much more fun.

If you have any questions regarding preparation, please email me at MOnder@VisitationAcademy.org . I look forward to seeing you all at the conference!

Sincerely,

Michelle Onder



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Print Press Editor Nathan Ice

Greetings Press members,

My name is Nathan Ice and I will be the editor of the Newspaper at the Clark State Convention. I am from the Cameron YMCA delegation, and one thing I love to participate in is my schools marching band, where I play a set of quints in the drumline (if you don't know drumline references, that's the five drums on a harness --also called quads for drums with no little middle one).

The only thing I love more than drumline is Youth in Government. YIG is a fantastic program that I love being a part of, and I'm very happy that you decided to be a member of the Print Press. I am excited for the media branch this year and I know it will be incredible. There are some fun and exciting changes in store for the Print press for this year to revamp the media part of the convention.

Missouri Youth in Government can be an experience where you can make lifelong friendships with some amazing people. When at the convention, I encourage you to not be shy and to step out of your comfort zone and meet new people.

It is also a good idea before convention for you to spend time learning about how a newspaper is written. We will have time to review at our first print press meeting, but we will also prepare ahead of time by emailing each other. Some things you may want to bring to the convention include: laptop, paper, pens, jump drive, and a good attitude.

If you have any questions about Print Press contact me at nate.iceman@gmail.com. I look forward to meeting you and having a great convention.

See you in December!

Nathan Ice



CLARK STATE CONVENTION

Video News Director Sydnie Crabb

Dear Mo YIG Delegate,

I'm Sydnie Crabb, Clark State Conventions Video New Director. I'm from the Cameron Delegation, and this will be my second year participating in YIG. I'm so excited to be spending my time through the week working with everyone to make this year a great one!

If you are new to the video news program and feeling a bit intimidated, just remember in video news we are all about a professional but fun environment! Also we will be covering tips and techniques on covering news and videoing, so all you need to bring is a positive attitude, creativity, and a great smile!

Sincerely,

Sydnie Crabb