



MAY NEWS

It's spring and everyone's busy. So we'll skip the intro and go straight to the highlights:

- Our LYAC students wrote and **passed their own bill focused on mental health** (Page 2)
- Our Boundless Washington fellows led an environmental event with **Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz**, former **Chair of the Lummi Nation Jay Julius**, and others (Page 3)
- With new travel guidelines for Europe, we might be able to bring the **World Fellows to Spain** this summer (Page 4)

There's more -- including an absolutely wonderful video of Senator Wilson leading the State Senate in honoring our Boundless Washington students -- so scroll down to make your own day!

-- **Kristina Brown**
Executive Director, WSLB

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STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH BILL PASSED!

This past legislative session, our students conceived of, drafted, and successfully passed their own bill focused on promoting student mental health. Governor Jay Inslee signed it into law today.

House Bill 1373, sponsored by Representative Lisa Callan, would require public schools to share certain information about resources related to suicide prevention, substance abuse help, and eating disorder treatment.

LYAC decided to take this issue on after launching a statewide youth survey, which garnered 1,400+ responses and confirmed what they had already suspected: student mental health is a top concern for young people in Washington State.

Here's what the bill's prime sponsor had to say about LYAC:

“The LYAC is an inspiring group of involved young people, and I’m proud to have sponsored this bill on their behalf.”

-- Representative Lisa Callan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LYAC Committee Meeting: May 4th, 10:00 a.m.

Annual Board Meeting: June 8th, 11:00 a.m.

Compassion Committee Meeting: May 10th, 3:00 p.m.



FIRST WSLB "SPEAKER SERIES" IS A SUCCESS

...thanks to our student leaders Ritika Khanal and Jaida Barrows!

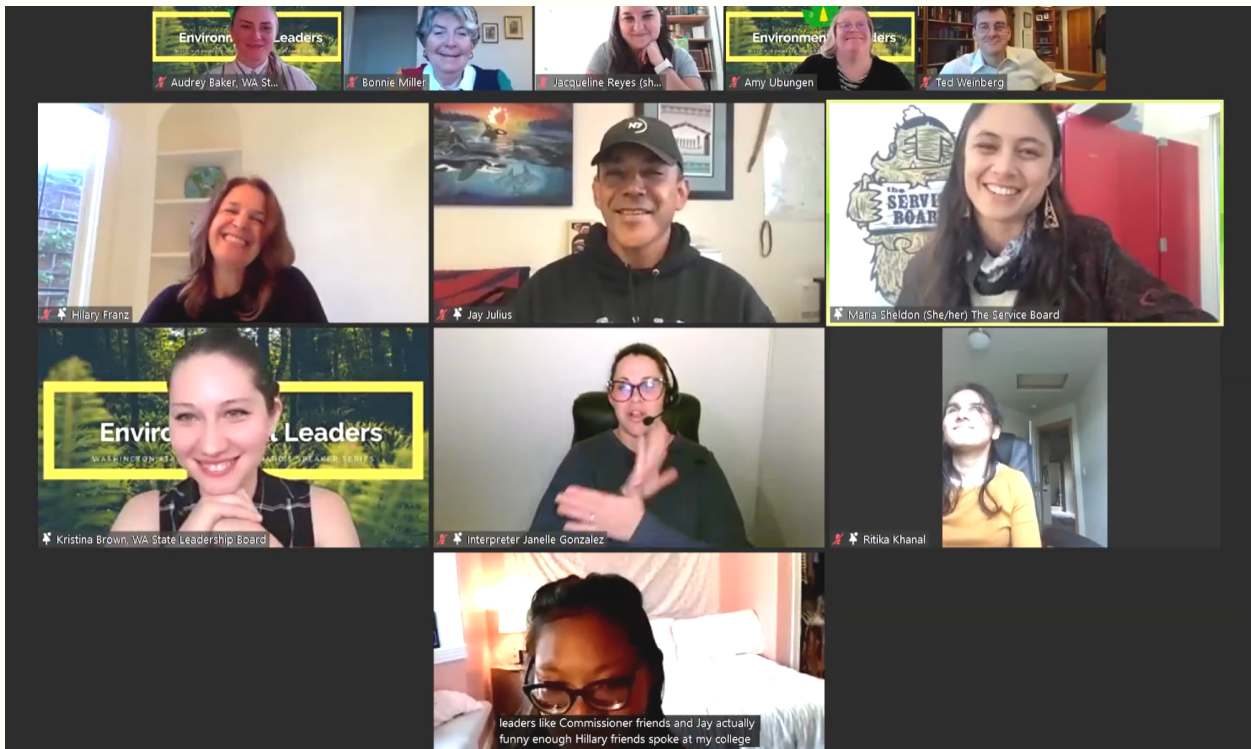
WSLB's first Speaker Series, Environmental Leaders, sought to answer this question:

"How can young people effectively advocate for the environment?"

Helping us answer that question was:

- Hilary Franz, Public Lands Commissioner
- Jay Julius, former Chair of the Lummi Nation
- Maria Sheldon, of the Service Board

If you missed it, you can (and should) watch the entire event at TVW.org.





SPAIN 2021?

With the European Union's announcement that it will be welcoming vaccinated American tourists this summer, we are hopeful we will be able to send one class of Washington World Fellows to Spain this July.

Student safety will determine this decision. Either way, we are prepared to deliver a high-quality program with life-changing opportunities for international exchange, virtually or in person.

WORLD FELLOWS GRADUATES

Where do our students go after our program?

Everywhere!

Our 2019 cohort of Washington World Fellows is graduating high school after spending the past three years with us. We are beyond proud that these students, almost all of whom will be the first in their families to go to college, will be attending 12 different colleges next year in 6 different states.



Follow us!



We can't cram all the exciting things our students are doing into one newsletter. So if you want to be in the know, make sure you're following the WSLB on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Thank you as always for supporting the inspiring work these young people are doing to better themselves and to advocate for others. We hope they inspire you as much as they inspire us!

Sincerely,

**-- Kristina Brown, Amy Ubungen & Audrey Baker
Washington State Leadership Board Staff**

