## **KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION**

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CITY COUNTY BUILDING #603 / 400 MAIN STREET KNOXVILLE, TN 37902 / (865) 215-2534

## MEDIA RELEASE

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024



## JUNIOR COMMISSION CLASS OF 2024 STUDENTS ANNOUNCED

The Class of 2024 Knox County Junior Commissioners have been selected and are ready to begin the youth civics leadership program this week. Class of 2024 Knox County Junior Commissioners include:

- District 1 Tralaia Hall (Senior, Career Magnet Academy)
- District 2 William Mendoza-Euceda (Senior, Career Magnet Academy)
- District 3 Gracie Hancock (Junior, Bearden High School)
- District 4 Bayless Bolt (Senior, Webb School of Knoxville)
- District 5 Maya Hira (Senior, Bearden High School)
- District 6 Josh Martinez (Junior, L&N STEM Academy)
- District 7 Kalan Hendrickson (Senior, Apostolic Christian School)
- District 8 Landry Baker (Junior, Gibbs High School)
- District 9 Albert Venable (Junior, South Doyle High School)
- At-Large, Seat 10 Timothy Cho (Junior, Farragut High School)
- At-Large, Seat 11 Makenlee Cox (Junior, Central High School)

Entering its second year, the Knox County Commission's Junior Commission youth civics education program welcomes high school juniors and seniors enrolled in a full-time public, private or accredited home school program. Each Knox County Commissioner chose one student from the submitted applications.

About the Program: Knox County Commissioners believe that community engagement and civic education is vitally important to a healthy republic and functioning democracy. In Nov. 2022, the Commission formally established an annual "Junior Commission" program whereby Knox County youth can become a more engaged and informed citizen by participating in a unique youth leadership program. Junior Commission participants will learn the functions of their local government and further develop healthy citizenry habits, while promoting the importance of community engagement and public service. Junior Commissioners will walk alongside their Knox County Commissioners and participate in unique programming over a three-month period, including attending an orientation session, attend work sessions, commission, and zoning meetings, experiential field trips, join their elected representatives at a community public event, and learn hands-on governing in a mock session of the Junior Commission.

## Junior Commissioners will begin the program with an orientation session this Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 7:00p at the City County Building Small Assembly Room.

For more information, visit: **www.knoxcounty.org/juniorcommission** or contact the Knox County Commission office at (865) 215-2534.

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