2022 Global Economic Forum

Closing the Digital Divide

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 & THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

Quorum at the University City Science Center
3675 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

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ABOUT THE COUNCIL

THE REGION’S PREMIER FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDUCATION PROVIDER SINCE 1949

TALK
- As one of the top public policy forums in the nation, the Council has hosted more than 5,000 sought-after speakers and offers a diverse series of more than 30 informative programs each year.

TRAVEL
- Offering over 30 unique, substance-rich tours per year—including both land tours and small-ship cruises—on all 7 continents
  - World class accommodations, access to political leaders and local experts, and behind the scenes views and briefings

TEACH
- Educating over 2,500 students in nearly 90 schools each year
  - Providing extensive resource material, guest speakers, conferences, lectures, simulation programs, field trips, debates, and the Model United Nations

Speakers include government leaders, heads-of-state, journalists, academics, humanitarians, and corporate executives.
The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, international affairs experience provider with more than 70 years of expertise in connecting Philadelphia to the world. To further the region’s understanding of foreign affairs, the Council offers educational experiences, in-school curriculum enhancements, programming, and professional development training focused on cultural diplomacy and global fluency beginning with students in middle school and extends offerings through adulthood. The Council is a leader in educational international affairs programming, providing content and curriculum to 85 schools, serving 2,500 students in the region annually. It has served over one million students since 1949. The Council also extends its foreign affairs leadership as a co-sponsor of the William W. Bodine High School for International Affairs (Bodine), founded in partnership with the School District of Philadelphia in 1981.
The 2022 Global Economic Forum (GEF) is a high school simulation program focused on the creation, presentation, and marketing of policy solutions to pressing issues facing the global community. In school-based groups, students compete with their peers for fictitious funding from the World Bank. Students create policy proposals prior to attending the program and present these solutions to a panel of judges who ultimately award the fictitious funding to the best policy solution paired with the strongest presentation from student delegates.

For the 2022 GEF program, the Council has selected three topics of critical global importance for students to investigate under the banner of the overall program topic of Closing the Digital Divide: (1) Equality in Education, (2) The Widespread Adoption of Telehealth, and (3) Financial Inclusion: Banking the Unbanked.

In the past two years, the COVID-19 pandemic underscored some of the inequities in the global community, with many issues directly connected to a growing digital divide around the world. For this program, students will create original policy proposals aimed at limiting this divide, focused on their specific assigned committee topics.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE GEF PROGRAM RESOURCES →
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Opening Plenary Session
Featuring pre-recorded keynote remarks from Councilmember Derek S. Green, Councilmember at-large

9:30 – 10:25 a.m.
Breakout Session I
Committee Breakouts & Team Presentations

10:35 – 11:20 a.m.
Breakout Session II
Committee Presentation Workshop

11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Breakout Session III
Presentation Workshop and Group Lunch

12:15 – 1:30 p.m.
Closing Plenary Session

Click here to view the detailed agenda →
Councilmember Derek S. Green
Councilmember at-large

In 2015, Councilmember Derek S. Green, Esquire won the Democratic primary for City Council At-Large in Philadelphia by receiving the highest number of votes cast in the election, and, later that year, he was elected as a member of City Council. In 2019, he was elected for another term.

As a member of Council, he chairs the Committees on Finance and Disabilities and serves as the Vice Chair of the Committees on Aging and Law and Government. Additionally, Councilmember Green serves as the Chair of the Philadelphia Gas Commission, President of the Democratic Municipal Officials, and Past President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League. Additionally, he serves on the Boards of the City Trusts, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials. Further, he serves on the Executive Committees of the Democratic National Committee and National League of Cities.
Thank you to the following schools for their participation in this program and dedication to global education!

Southern Regional High School
Penncrest High School
Jenkintown
Spring-Ford Area High School
Julia R. Masterman
Haverford High School
Malvern Preparatory School
Roman Catholic High School
Lower Moreland High School
Bishop Shanahan High School
Friends’ Central School
Cinnaminson High School
New Foundations Charter School
The University City Science Center is Philadelphia’s premier catalyst of entrepreneurial activity, healthcare innovation, and economic growth. Established in 1963, the nonprofit has been recognized by The Brookings Institution as a best-in-class investor, mentor, and economic development partner for young technology companies. Working alongside industry partners and leading research and academic institutions across the globe, the Science Center has supported over 1,000 early-stage companies. Today, the organization advances healthcare innovation from idea to the marketplace through startup support services, allocating capital, gathering the innovation community, and building inclusive STEM pathways for Philadelphia youth and adults.

For more information visit sciencecenter.org or follow us at @UCScienceCenter.
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2021-2022 EDUCATION PARTNERS

Althea de Baun Budd Foundation
Joseph A. & Ann Berquist
Brandywine Realty Trust
Connelly Foundation
John D. Emery
Ernst & Young
Fox School of Business at Temple University
Green Family Foundation
Greater Philadelphia Elementary Education Foundation
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The Satell Institute
The Satell Family
SEI
Subak Family Foundation
Andy Szabo & Susan Long
UGI/AmeriGas
University of Pennsylvania – Middle East Center
University of Pennsylvania – South Asia Center
The 2022 Summer Global Leadership Seminar, entitled Global Development and International Aid, is a week-long summer institute open to all rising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. This year’s seminar seeks to advance students’ understanding of global development and the importance of international aid as a tool of diplomacy and coalition building. The Seminar concludes with a culminating project in which student groups develop proposals for increasing global development in the midst of a global pandemic.

Registration for this program will open on Friday, March 4, 2022!

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE →
2022 Summer Global Leadership Seminar Program Information Session

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
5–5:45 p.m. via Zoom

Parents/guardians, students, and teachers interested in learning more about the Council’s 2022 Summer Global Leadership Seminar are invited to join Council staff for a short information session to learn more about this unique summer opportunity for high school students!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER →