

IF NOT NOW



OVERVIEW

This year's theme: IF NOT NOW

Young people aren't the future; they're the **now**. Gen Z is becoming more influential in the decision-making space, so it's more important than ever to amplify these young voices as they grow into adult change-makers.

At St. Monica Green Team 2023 Youth Environmental Summit, **IF NOT NOW**, we'll explore how students can lead their school and parish environmental groups to effectively develop and champion policies that help their campuses be more environmentally aware and active.

Who Should Attend?

Middle and High School students who are passionate about the environment. The summit is designed to help students:

- ❖ Discover resources to help you effect change in your school or parish community
- ❖ Learn from regional environmental experts on climate issues facing our region
- ❖ Leadership and time management skills to set your school enviro club up for success!
- ❖ Meet representatives from local organizations to partner with throughout the year
- ❖ Plan your club's activities for this school year—and work with peers from other schools!



Students from the 2021 Youth Summit

About the annual youth summit

The St. Monica Green Team hosts an annual youth environmental summit to inspire and provide SoCal's young people with the resources on how to live a more sustainable life as called by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*.

Special thanks to our sponsor, [Catholic Climate Covenant](#).

What do we aim to accomplish each year?

1. Proclaim the call established in Pope Francis' *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home* and teach the connections between environmental activism and our Catholic faith.
2. Inspire environmental action and civic participation in middle and high school students.
3. Restore hope and combat environmental despondency plaguing young people today.

SCHEDULE

What will the day look like? 8:45-3pm

The curriculum for the event will be informed by *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, drawing especially from *Chapter Six: Ecological Education and Spirituality*.

The day will comprise:

- **8:45 am Registration Free continental breakfast!**
- **Opening session**
 - Presentation: **LAUDATO SI' 101** by Meredith McCarthy
 - Keynote speaker: **CHIEF RED BULL**, Tataviam (invited)
 - Activity: **THE POVERTY-CLIMATE CONNECTION**
- **Breakout sessions**
 - Session A: **LEARNING THE SCIENCE** (plastic waste, recycling, and global effects; food waste and composting programs)
 - Session B: **BUILDING YOUR MOVEMENT** (recruitment and team management; crafting S.M.A.R.T. plans and proposals)
- **Free lunch!**
 - Activity: **ORGANIZATION “SPEED DATING”** (students meet representatives from local environmental organizations to partner with during the year)
- **Afternoon Session**
 - Presentation: **LEARNING BY EXAMPLE** (select students and teachers share successful examples of policy change at schools in past years)
 - Activity: **PLANNING FOR SUCCESS** (create action plans for upcoming year in school groups)
 - Activity: **WRITING FOR CHANGE** (letter-writing campaign to Archbishop Gómez)

Location

St. Monica
725 California Ave
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Free Parking

Registration

<https://forms.gle/t2vGJndcrEzdnhZM7>