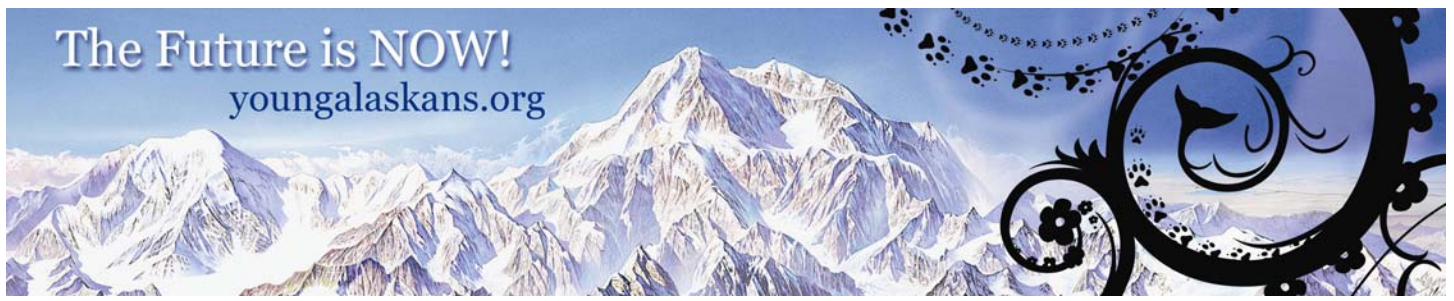


The Future is NOW!
youngalaskans.org



The Conference of Young Alaskans 2009 / The Forum of Young Alaskans ★ Two of the University of Alaska's Eight Stars of Gold

Dear Educator,

I work for the Fairbanks-based public-policy research and consulting firm, Information Insights. We are working with the University of Alaska to put on two events geared to older high school and college-age youth as part of Alaska's 50th Anniversary of Statehood celebration.

The Forum of Young Alaskans, the first of these events, will take place October 4 and will be the largest statewide conversation of Alaska youth. It will be a great opportunity for students to learn more about Alaska's history while telling Alaska leaders about the issues that are most important to them for Alaska's next 50 years. You can read more about the Forum below and at www.youngalaskans.org/forum-of-young-alaskans.

We are asking college professors, high school teachers and principals to help us promote this event in their classrooms. Here are several ways that you can help:

- Provide extra credit to students who participate in the statewide discussion in person on October 4 or online throughout the month of October (*details attached*)
- Post fliers in your school or classrooms
- Host a Forum at your school or campus if there is not already one in your community (*step-by-step guide attached*)
- Invite us to make a 5-minute presentation in the next week if you are in Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau. We have young Alaska leaders standing by to speak to your classes or faculty on short notice.
- Tell 16- to 25-years olds you know about the opportunity to earn a one-semester tuition waiver at the UA campus of their choice by uploading a YouTube video endorsing the Forum (*details attached*)
- Share this email throughout your school, college, or community

Please see the attached packet of information for more details and resources. If you have questions or can help us with any of the above please contact me by return email (Barbara Branton (907-450-2462, bbranton@ialaska.com) or contact the project coordinator:

Ian-Michael Hebert (ian@ialaska.com, 907-978-2925)

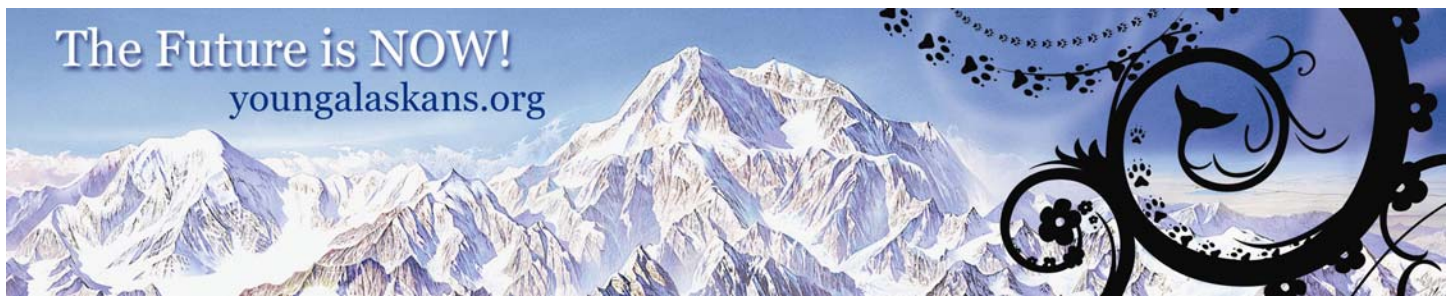
About the Forum of Young Alaskans - October 2008

On Oct. 4, 2008, several hundred young Alaskans ages 16 to 25 from across the state will meet to discuss the issues and debate answers to Alaska's most pressing problems during a statewide dialog. Anyone in the age

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bracket is welcome to be take part in the discussion. (The age cut off is determined by the person's age in January 2009.) Three location in the state, Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau, will hold simultaneous meetings linked together via the Web and UATV to allow for a large facilitated discussion. In Fairbanks, the Forum will be held in the UAF Wood Center. Smaller communities across the state are encouraged to organize a site, too. Our goal is to stimulate conversation and ideas from youth in every geographical region of Alaska.

The theme of the event is Alaska's past, present and future. Participants will learn about the Alaska statehood movement from some of the people who were three; they will address current challenges facing their communities and opportunities for service; and they will share visions for what Alaska will look like 50 years into the future. The website youngalaskans.org will serve as a discussion board for young people to voice their opinions and perspectives on the future of Alaska and what steps need to be taken to improve our state.

Alaska leaders who have already committed to attend one of the three urban Forum locations are Anchorage Mayor and U.S. Senate candidate Mark Begich, Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor Jim Whitaker, and the Chancellors of UAF and UAA. These and other leaders will be there in listening mode. Other than opening remarks that will introduce each of the day's three sessions, the floor will belong to Forum participants.

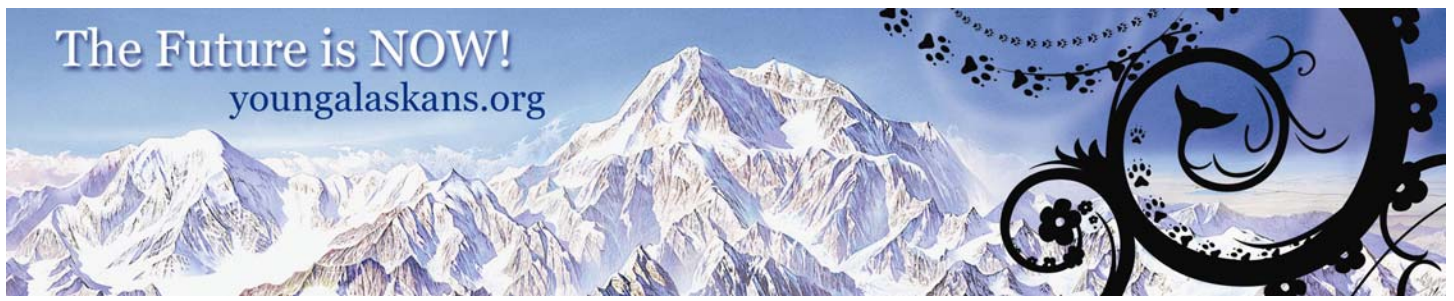
About the Conference of Young Alaskans - January 2009

The online conversation will continue throughout October and anyone who is 16 to 25 can participate. The Forum will also help publicize another statehood event for young people. The second Conference of Young Alaskans (COYA) will take place in January 2009. It is limited to 55 delegates from around the state who will meet for three days in Girdwood to discuss issues and make policy recommendations to the Alaska legislature and Governor. Delegates' travel expenses will be paid by UA and Northrim Bank. Applicants to the Conference of Young Alaskans will be asked to write a 500-word essay on "What is your vision for Alaska's next 50 years?"

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Forum of Young Alaskans Extra Credit Options

There are a number of ways teachers and professors can structure extra credit opportunities to encourage students to participate in the Forum of Young Alaskans.

Students who are 16 to 25 can be offered extra credit for participating in the statewide discussion on October 4, 2008, from 1 to 5 p.m., at one of these Forum locations (more sites are being added every day):

- Anchorage - Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center
- Fairbanks - UAF Wood Center Ballroom
- Juneau - UAS Glacier View Room
- Bethel - Kuskokwim Campus UAF
- Dillingham - Bristol Bay Campus UAF
- Homer – Kachemak Bay Campus EAST
- Valdez - Prince William Sound Community College
- Additional sites are being set up daily (see latest list at www.youngalaskans.org)

Students who do not have a Forum of Young Alaskans site near them or who have schedule conflicts on October 4 can participate in the online discussion anytime during October 2008. Students must still be 16 to 25 years old. They can also watch the October 4 proceedings via UATV cable broadcast and web simulcast.

- www.youngalaskans.org/discussion/

To show you that they participated, you can ask students to turn in one of the following:

- **In person participants:** Copy of their Discussion Guide with responses filled in
- **Online participants:** Print out of their online responses to discussion topics
- Copy of their application essay* for the Conference of Young Alaskans on the topic, "What is your vision for Alaska's next 50 years?" (500 word limit)
- Reflection paper or essay topic of your choosing

If you have questions, please contact the Project Coordinator:

- Ian-Michael Hebert (ian@ialaska.com, 907-978-2925)

**Applying to be a delegate to the Conference of Young Alaskans is optional.*

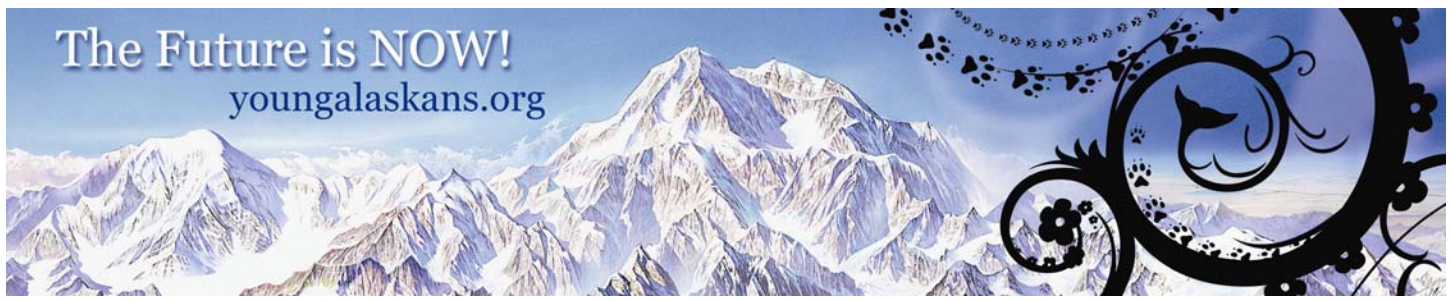
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2. Imagine that you could choose to live at some other time in Alaska History. *When would you live and what would you be remembered for today?*
3. Our communities contain a great depth of collective knowledge. *Who in your community could you connect with to strengthen your understanding of Alaska's History?*

Alaska's Future: Our next 50 years and beyond

1. Write down every word, thought and image that describes your vision for Alaska's next 50 years.
2. The future of Alaska is a responsibility we all share. *What can you do to address the challenges in your community and to help create your vision for Alaska's future?*
3. *What topics or questions should be addressed at the Conference of Young Alaskans 2009?*



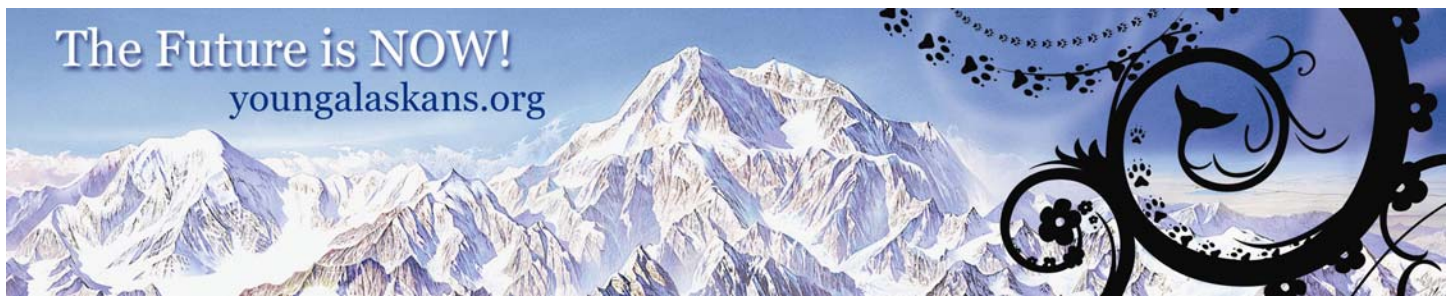
Forum of Young Alaskans

How to Organize a Forum in Your Community

Thank you for your interest in hosting a forum in your community. We hope to involve as many young people as possible in this event. This guide will help you develop a successful local forum event.

IN ADVANCE > STARTING NOW!

- 1. Fill out the attached form** and fax, mail or email it to the Forum of Young Alaskans ASAP (find contact info below). We will send you a Local Forum Kit with the information you need to get going and we'll put your site on the map (literally) at www.youngalaskans.org.
- 2. Find a place to meet** – To be broadcast on the live video feed you will need a site with a video-conferencing endpoint – usually a local school building or University of Alaska classroom. (Call the school district office or the local UA campus if you have one. They can tell you which rooms have conferencing equipment and whether they are available. This is a UA project so if you have a campus in your community they should be happy to help.) For sites without videoconferencing, look for a location with high-speed Internet access, satellite TV, or a cable station that broadcasts UATV. You will also need a landline telephone for calling into the live audio conference.
- 3. Promote your event** – Promotional fliers will be included in your Local Forum Kit. Fill in your location information and put them up around your community. You can download more at www.youngalaskans.org. Talk to local youth groups, teachers, community leaders, and young people ages 16 to 25 about this opportunity to help create the future of Alaska. Before and after the event encourage young people to log on to youngalaskans.org to share their thoughts and apply to the Conference of Young Alaskans, which will take place in January 2009.
- 4. Send us a photo** – Email a photo of your community that will be seen by everyone who attends the Forum of Young Alaskans on October 4. Please send to techteam@youngalaskans.org.
- 5. Decide if you will offer refreshments**
- 6. Decide on Post-Forum Activities** – Some sites will offer optional post-Forum activities from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. These vary from site to site but could include taking group photos to upload to the site, making short videos of individual's stating their visions for Alaska's next 50 years, helping participants complete applications to the Conference of Young Alaskans, or entertainment options.

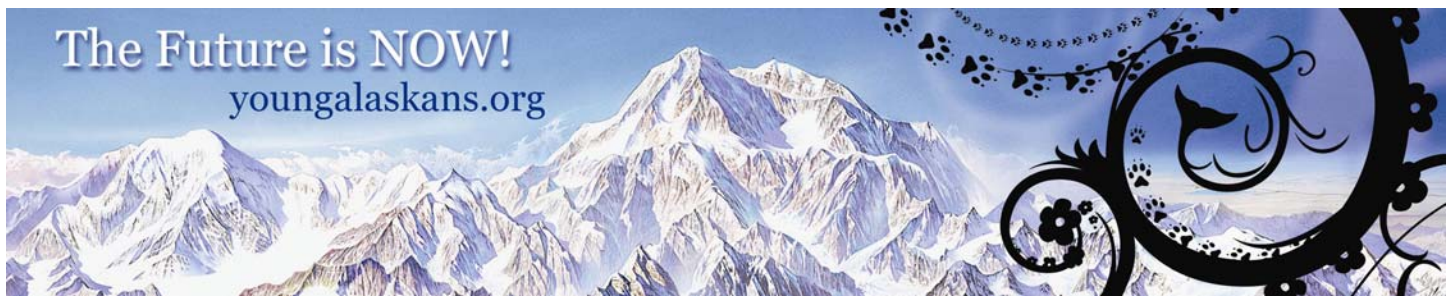


THE DAY OF THE FORUM > OCTOBER 4

- 1. Bring materials you will need at the site** – Pencils/pens, computer(s) with Internet connection, cable TV or videoconferencing setup, registration form, discussion guides, agendas and group synthesis sheets, any refreshments.
- 2. Set up the room** – Set up a registration table and arrange other tables and chairs to allow for discussion groups of up to ten. Each table will need a copy of the agenda and discussion guide for each participant plus one set of group synthesis sheets. You will need a computer with an Internet connection to post the results of your site's discussions. Test the Internet connection and log into www.youngalaskans.org. (We will set up at least one user account and password for your site in advance depending on your estimated attendance. If you have more than discussion groups at your site, you can register additional groups as separate "users" the day of the event.)
- 3. Sign into the video or audio conferencing** – Sign on at least 30 minutes early and stay on the line. Have participants fill out registration forms as they enter. At 12:55 be ready to introduce your site and tell us how many participants are there.
- 4. Help facilitate the discussion** – The agenda will walk you and other participants through the suggested discussion topics for the day. Each group or table will be asked to designate a representative to record and report key discussion issues. Be ready to help facilitate the discussion by asking questions that encourage reflection on the issues. Each issue will be introduced with a short video. Let participants know that their thoughts on these issues will contribute to the public debate and help shape the future of our state. Alaska leaders are interested in what young Alaskans have to say.
- 5. Post results from your community's discussion online** – At each of the breaks in the agenda, have the designated group reporter post the top three issues or priorities for their group under the appropriate discussion topic at www.youngalaskans.org/discussion/. If you have more than one group or table and only one computer, you can appoint one person to enter responses for all groups. (They will have to log out and log in for each group. This person should be a volunteer or observer, rather than a 16- to 25-year-old participant, so they do not miss out on any discussion.)
- 6. Encourage participants to apply to the Conference of Young Alaskans** – 55 young Alaskans from across the state will be selected this fall to be delegates to the 3-day Conference of Young Alaskans in Girdwood, Alaska, in January 2009, and their travel expenses will be covered. Your Local Forum Kit will include application information. Participants can apply online at youngalaskans.org.

If you have any questions please contact the project coordinator at 907.978.2925 or info@youngalaskans.org.

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Forum of Young Alaskans Newsletter Article

Forum of Young Alaskans to connect 49th state in-person and online

Young Alaskans, ages 16 through 25, have an opportunity to make their voices heard across the vast expanse of Alaska in the real and virtual world during the *Forum of Young Alaskans* on Oct. 4, 2008, from 1 to 5 p.m. Using Internet and videoconferencing technologies, the Forum will connect simultaneous mass meetings occurring in Fairbanks, Juneau, Anchorage, as well as smaller communities, and online at youngalaskans.org.

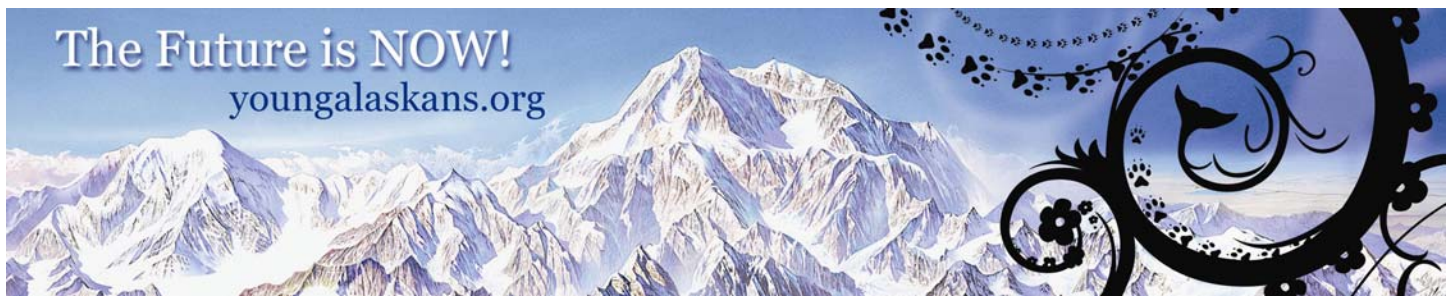
Young people from communities large and small, in both urban and rural Alaska, will discuss, debate, and delve into the issues that are important to them and issues that are affecting the state today. They will share their experiences, knowledge and hopes for the future with each other and Alaska's opinion leaders.

We need your help. Please let young Alaskans ages 16 through 25 know about this forum and encourage them to participate – information and free registration are available online at youngalaskans.org. If outside Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau, consider joining or organizing a remote Forum site – find instructions and flyers online at youngalaskans.org. For any questions not answered online, contact Ian-Michael Hebert, Project Coordinator, (907) 978-2925, ian@ialaska.com.

The Forum of Young Alaskans is a University of Alaska Eight Stars of Gold project proudly sponsored by AT&T and is part of Alaska's 50th Anniversary of Statehood celebration.

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Forum of Young Alaskans 30-second PSAs

Forum of Young Alaskans # 1

Everyone is talking about Alaska's future. Well, now, Alaska's future leaders are joining the conversation. On October 4, 2008, young Alaskans, ages 16 through 25, from large and small communities across the state will delve into today's headlines and tomorrow's solutions during the Forum of Young Alaskans. This historic dialogue will take place at simultaneous venues in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, as well as online. Join the conversation. Registration is free. Log onto www.youngalaskans.org. Organize a discussion site in your community. The Forum of Young Alaskans, Saturday, October 4th. The future is now! *The Forum of Young Alaskans is a University of Alaska Eight Stars of Gold project proudly sponsored by AT&T.*

Forum of Young Alaskans # 2

Everyone is talking about Alaska's future. Well, Alaskans ages 16 through 25, listen up, the future is now! It's time to have your say during the Forum of Young Alaskans, a statewide conversation happening in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and other community-organized locations across the state, as well as online October 4, 2008. Sign up today and have your say at www.youngalaskans.org. You have a voice! Use it! At the Forum of Young Alaskans October 4th in Fairbanks, Juneau, Anchorage, online at www.youngalaskans.org, or organize a site in your area. It's free.

The Forum of Young Alaskans is a University of Alaska 8 Stars of Gold project proudly sponsored by AT&T.

Forum of Young Alaskans # 3

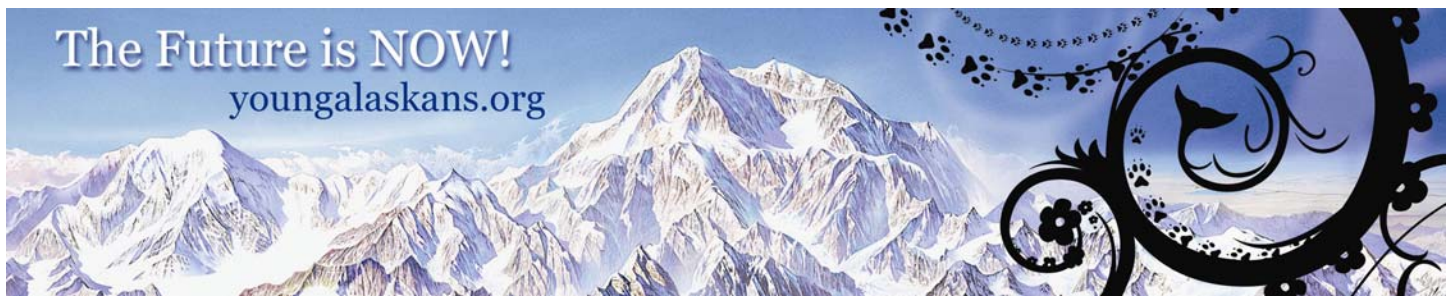
Do you know a future leader of Alaska? Chances are you probably do! Help them find their voice by encouraging them to participate in the Forum of Young Alaskans, a statewide discussion taking place in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and other community-organized locations, as well as online on October 4th. Encourage your future leader to sign up today for the Forum of Young Alaskans at www.youngalaskans.org. Find out how YOU can get involved or organize a discussion site in your area. The Forum of Young Alaskans, October 4th, Statewide! The future is now! It's Free! *The Forum of Young Alaskans is a University of Alaska 8 Stars of Gold project proudly sponsored by AT&T.*

Media Contact: Jeanette Anderson Moores, (907) 229-6925, mooreswj@gci.net, www.YoungAlaskans.org

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Forum of Young Alaskans YouTube™ Video Contest Rules

CONTEST PRIZE

The University of Alaska is offering a semester tuition waiver to the winner of the Forum of Young Alaskans Video Contest.

HOW TO ENTER

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. To enter, record a video as a famous historical or political figure promoting the Forum of Young Alaskans, upload it to YouTube™, link it to the Forum of Young Alaskans YouTube™ channel, and make a post on the Forum of Young Alaskans online discussion board. Videos that do not mention the Forum of Young Alaskans will be disqualified. All entries shall become the property of the University of Alaska. The University of Alaska is not responsible for lost, misdirected or delayed entries.

CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is open to Alaska residents ages 16-25. Identification must be produced on request.
2. The tuition waiver is non-transferable and must be used the first fall semester after the completion of high school, or the first fall semester after the waiver is awarded (for those over 18 years old).
3. Members of the Forum of Young Alaskans Steering Committee, employees of the University of Alaska, Information Insights, advertising and promotional agencies and their respective affiliates and associates and such employees' immediate family members and persons with whom such employees are domiciled are excluded from this contest.
4. The prize is not redeemable in cash and must be accepted as awarded.
5. Contest winner will be determined by video popularity and ratings with final decision by the vote of the Steering Committee. Decisions of the contest judges are final - no substitutions will be available.
6. By claiming the prize, the winner authorizes the use, without additional compensation of his or her name and/or likeness and/or voice/photograph and municipality of residence for promotion and/or advertising purposes in any manner and in any medium (including without limitation, radio broadcasts, newspapers and other publications and in television or film releases, slides, videotape, distribution over the internet and picture date storage) which the University of Alaska may deem appropriate.
7. In accepting the prize, the winner acknowledges that the University of Alaska, Information Insights, advertising and promotional agencies and their respective affiliates and associates may not be held liable for any loss, damages or injury associated with accepting or using this prize.
8. The winner must sign a release form as prepared and accepted by the University of Alaska acknowledging their acceptance and understanding of the complete contest rules.
9. The University of Alaska retains the rights, in its absolute and sole discretion, to make substitutions of equivalent kind or approximate value in the event of the unavailability of any prize or component of the prize for any reason whatsoever.
10. This contest is subject to all federal, provincial and municipal laws.
11. The University of Alaska reserves the right to withdraw or terminate this contest at any time without prior notice.
12. Approximate value of prizes vary.

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