

YOUNG LEADERS CLUB

STUDENT CLUB START-UP GUIDE



Jolt
INITIATIVE

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JOIN THE JOLT FAMILY

Jolt Initiative is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that aims to increase the civic participation of the Latinx youth to build a stronger democracy and ensure that everyone's voice is heard. Jolt knows that our democracy works best when everyone gets a seat at the table. That is why Jolt's Young Leaders Club strives to build the leadership capacity of Gen Z Latinxers to mobilize their peers to take action and increase their civic participation.

Jolt Young Leaders Clubs across the Lone Star State organize to advance the following priorities:

- Non-partisan Civic Engagement
- Education
- Advocacy
- Leadership Development

We do not stand with any one political party, but rather for the nearly 11 million Latinos in Texas as we advocate for & drive the decisions around the issues that impact our lives.

¡BIENVENIDOS - WELCOME!

Dear Leader,

Jolt Initiative's goal is to empower Latinx youth like you with the resources and skills needed to be effective citizens in your community – acting locally for the betterment of democracy nationwide. You help us empower your community to become civically engaged by joining with your peers and schools across Texas to lead, empower, and uplift nuestra gente.

Civic engagement and democratic participation are more important now than ever. Your participation in this club is a big responsibility and we will support you along the way.

As a club, you will have the opportunity to discuss and solve problems related to issues that matter to you most. You will participate in civic engagement activities that will help increase awareness and enthusiasm for active participation in the democratic process. We will help empower you to act as leaders on your campus and through your stories, uplift the issues and voices of your peers.

We are an ever-expanding list of schools and student leaders dedicated to serving the Latinx community and we are muy excited that you will be joining us on this journey towards a better democracy!

The staff at Jolt Initiative are here to assist you. If you have any questions or need additional information, please email us at training@joltinitiative.org.



Gloria Gonzales-Dholakia, Ph. D.
Executive Director
Jolt Initiative

Mission

Jolt Initiative believes Latinx youth will transform Texas through the power of their vote. Jolt Initiative is harnessing the brilliance of our community and culture to build a generation of leaders that matches the urgency of our time.

WHY BUILD LATINX POWER

40% of Texas' population is made up by those of Latinx decent, and by 2030 we will be the majority in this state. It is our work, culture, food, art, and language that has largely shaped Texas into the state it is today. Jolt is building the collective voice, power, and influence of Latinxs across Texas so that our communities and families are treated with the respect that we deserve.



WHY START A JOLT CLUB?

Civic engagement and leadership are more important now than ever before and at Jolt we believe your voice and your story are a vital part of making sure we are headed in the right direction. Latinx leadership starts with you and your community, and we are here to help provide you the tools you need to develop your skills and become that leader. Jolt Young Leaders Club (Jolt YLC) will provide you with learning modules such as public speaking, storytelling, and leadership principles because it is important that the world hears your voice!

How We Get the Job Done

Jolt knows our Latinx youth has the power to create democratic change across Texas. At Jolt, we help create civically engaged leaders who help bring a voice to their community. By being a part of Jolt YLC you will learn the skills necessary to become that leader, but you are not in it alone. We are here to support you as you become the voice of your community because we are stronger when we work together. We know our community is up for the task, so here's how we are going to get the job done:

We believe

in having a deep appreciation of the Latinx community and its culture.

We believe

we must adapt to our changing times and advance with professionalism.

We believe

in creating leaders in the community that serve as role models for their schools.

We believe

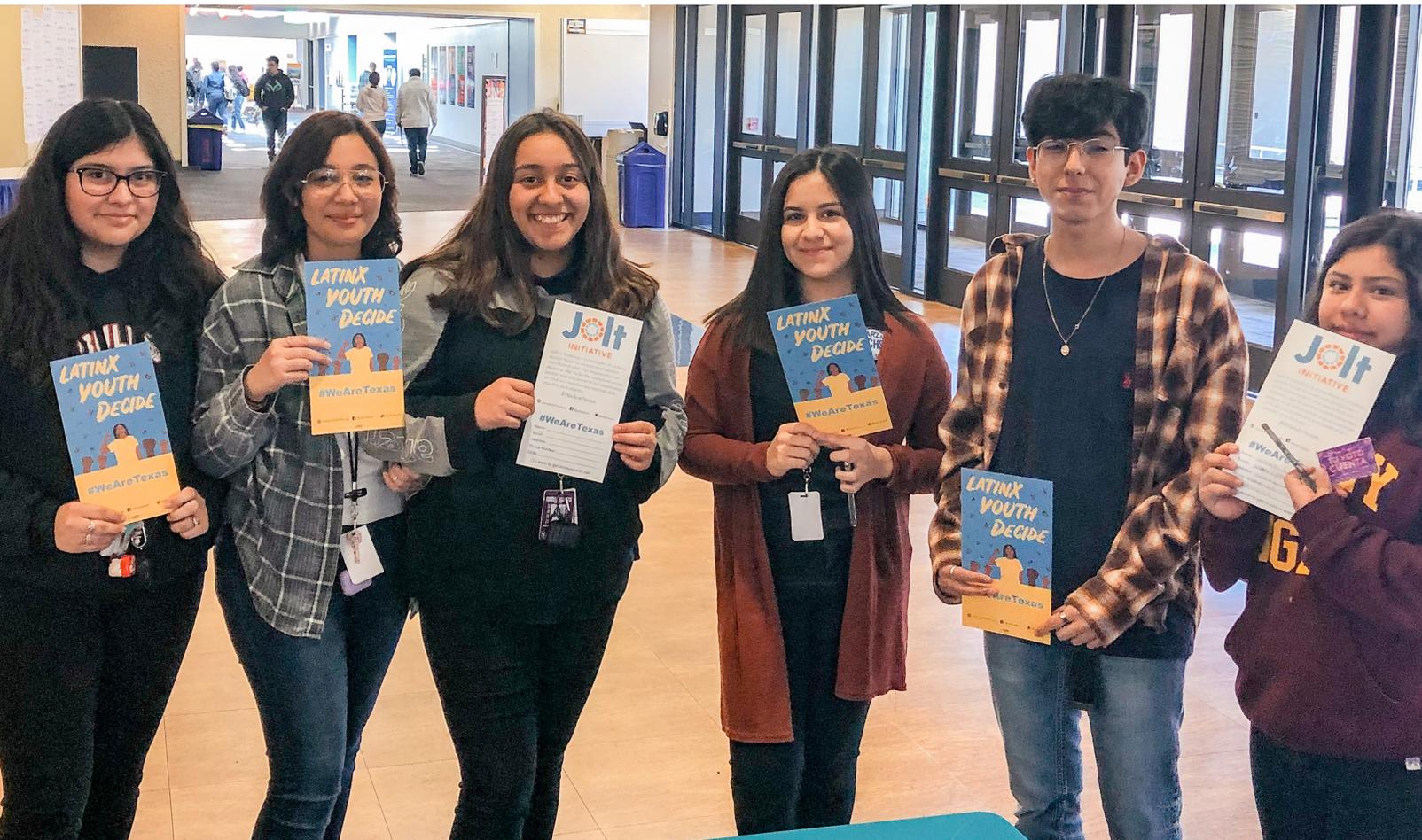
in practicing relentless problem solving to create greater change.

We believe

in telling our stories and uplifting the voices of the Latinx community.

We believe

in empowering young adults to become civically engaged and to make their voices heard.



Core Functions of Jolt YLC

EDUCATION

Members of Jolt YLC are expected to educate themselves, their fellow members, peers, and community about civic engagement. We will provide a program learning guide to help students lead their clubs successfully. Students must educate themselves and their peers on their Latinidad & how it impacts the democratic process in order to do the best work possible.

“I decided to join Jolt because I realized how uneducated I was about civic engagement. I saw the obstacles and struggles my community faced and decided I need to take action. Jolt is an organization that I found aligned with my values and has given me opportunities to become more educated and involved.” – Jennifer Torres, UT Dallas



ADVOCACY

Jolt YLC will help train students to rally together with their peers across campus to conduct non-partisan voter registration to ensure the voices of the community are heard. Jolt Young Leaders Clubs will bring together the communal voice to bring attention to the issues that matter most. By bringing together voices across campus, students will uplift the narratives of everyday people who are coming together to build a strong democracy.

“Simply, I love Jolt’s mission. I have been working within my own extended family to get them to the polls and show them why we must go out and vote starting at the municipal level. This organization demonstrates the same goal and I enjoy the innovative practices in getting our gente out to vote.” – Guadalupe Cruz Hinojo-Aguirre, UT Austin

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Jolt YLC will provide training to Latinx youth on public speaking, advocacy, digital organization, and mobilization so that they can be effective leaders in their communities. Our programming materials will guide students through the necessary steps to feel confident in their abilities to help lead people towards the change they wish to see in their communities.



Starting a Club

The members of your Jolt club will become leaders in their community, uplift their own voices as well as the voices of their peers, register voters, create a more civically engaged environment, help advocate for the needs of their communities, and, most importantly, have fun celebrating our comunidad y cultura (community and culture).

3 EASY STEPS TO START YOUR JOLT CLUB

1. Find 5 Latinx/POC friends and an advisor
2. Vote on leadership positions.
3. Register your group with Jolt by submitting your information & joining our online learning hub. That's it – you're ready!**

WHY JOIN JOLT AND START A CLUB?

Want to meet really cool people in your community? Want to educate yourself on issues affecting the Latinx community and find your voice? Want to hold elected officials accountable? Want to make a change? If you answered yes to any of these questions, Jolt is the place for you. Let Jolt help you create an awesome space in your community to amplify Latinx voices.

WHY MUST I LIVE IN TEXAS?

Jolt is focusing on mobilizing the voice of the Latinx community in Texas specifically because it is where we can make the biggest difference politically. Texas is 40% Latinx, but that is not reflected in the state's elected officials. We are focusing on building the political power of the Latinx community in Texas so it can more accurately represent its population.

GOT 5 LATINX/POC FRIENDS?

You'll need at least five people, with the majority being Latinx or people of color, to start a Jolt club. This means that the majority of the members for your Jolt club identify as Latinx/POC. For example, if you start with 5 people, at least 3 people must identify as Latinx/POC. We do welcome members of all nationalities who are willing to serve as allies in this work!

ELECT OFFICERS.

To start your club you will need to elect leaders: a president, vice president, secretary, and, if it is a campus requirement, a treasurer. Leaders are elected to year-long terms. You can find full descriptions of each position on the next page.

IDENTIFY AN ADVISOR.

This is a staff person at your school that can act as the sponsor for your club on campus. You must have an advisor to officially become a school club.

SUBMIT A NEW CLUB APPLICATION TO JOLT.

Once you have your five friends, your leaders elected, and an advisor it's time to register your group with Jolt. Fill out the registration form online at www.joltinitiative.org/clubs/ and an organizer from the Jolt team will get back to you within a week. Once you register, you will formalize your club by joining the Jolt Young Leaders Club learning platform. An invite will be sent to you shortly after your initial registration.

**CLUB REQUIREMENTS MAY VARY BASED BY CAMPUS. PLEASE CONFIRM WITH YOUR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE YOU HAVE MET YOUR SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS.

Officer Roles

The officers of Jolt clubs set the tone for their club and are true grassroots leaders on their campuses and in their communities. Clubs need the following roles to be successful:

PRESIDENT

The president is the fearless leader of the club. They are responsible for moving the club forward on its goals and managing the rest of the club leadership team. The president is the primary contact between the club and their organizer and is responsible for keeping regular communication with them.

VICE PRESIDENT

The vice president is secondary only in title and is just as vital to the club as the president. The vice president is head of recruitment and works with the other club members to use their networks to identify new members. They are the primary event planner and stand in for the president when they are absent. Finally, the vice president is in charge of external communications with other organizations to cooperate for events.





SECRETARY

The secretary is the historian and data person of the club. They keep track of all current club members and their contact info on their club's contacts tracker. The secretary takes the minutes for meetings and makes sure the club stays up to date on any requirements by the school to be an official student organization on campus.

TREASURER

In most cases, the responsibilities of the treasurer would also fall on the secretary. However, if your campus requires this position to be mandatory, it is okay to have this position independent from the secretary role. The treasurer is responsible for keeping an itemized list of all expenses and income for the club.

MEMBER ROLES

As a member of a Jolt student club you play a critical role at Jolt. You have the power to change Texas. There are three key roles club members participate in:

1. Creating a culture of civic engagement on campus by identifying opportunities to register voters in classrooms, at campus events, and while tabling.
2. Uplifting the voices of Latinx students campus-wide to ensure the stories and experiences of you and your peers are heard, acknowledged, and celebrated.
3. Raising awareness in your community and providing opportunities to discuss and solve problems related to the issues that matter most to you and your peers.

Club Agreement

Yes! I want to form a Jolt Student Club at my school so that we can win Latinos the power and respect we deserve.

AS A JOLT CLUB, YOU COMMIT TO:

- Organizing other Latino students as well as students who support the uplifting of Latinx voices.
- Registering and mobilizing voters in your community
- Meet with Jolt organizers to ensure you are on track and to discuss any needs or concerns.
- Commit to upholding Jolt's values.
- Mentoring the leaders who will continue the club after you graduate or step down.

JOLT COMMITS TO SUPPORTING YOU AND YOUR CLUB BY PROVIDING:

- Program Learning Guide
- Online Learning Portal
- Activity Fund
- Regional Organizer Quarterly Check-In
- Toolkit: T-shirt, Stickers, Tablecloth, Clipboards, Birthday Cards, Postcards, Pens, and Pledge Cards

NEW CLUB FORM

SCHOOL NAME: _____ LOCATION: _____

CLUB PRESIDENT

DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CELL: _____ FACEBOOK: _____ INSTAGRAM: _____

TWITTER: _____ TIKTOK: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

CLUB VICE PRESIDENT

DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CELL: _____ FACEBOOK: _____ INSTAGRAM: _____

TWITTER: _____ TIKTOK: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

CLUB SECRETARY

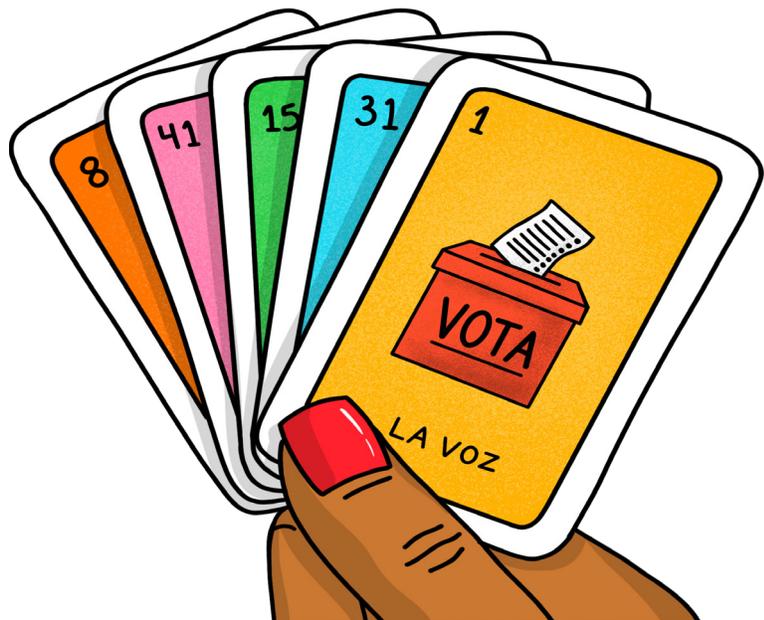
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CLUB TREASURER (OPTIONAL)

DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____
ZIP CODE: _____ EMAIL: _____
CELL: _____ FACEBOOK: _____ INSTAGRAM: _____
TWITTER: _____ TIKTOK: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

CLUB ADVISOR

DATE: _____ PRINTED NAME: _____
ZIP CODE: _____ EMAIL: _____
CELL: _____ FACEBOOK: _____ INSTAGRAM: _____
TWITTER: _____ TIKTOK: _____
SIGNATURE: _____



Sample Agenda for 1-Hour Meeting

5 minutes: Welcome - Introduce the Jolt mission, welcome any newcomers, and take attendance

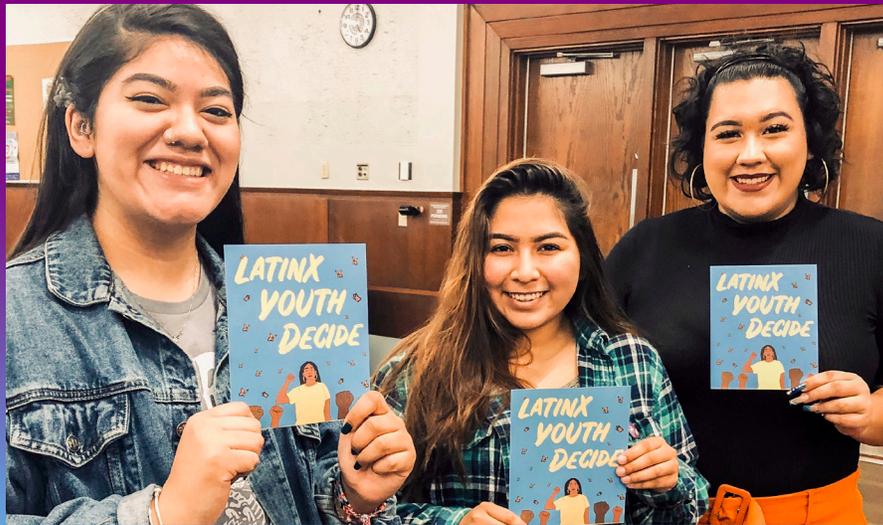
5 minutes: Announcements - Discuss any upcoming events.

10 minutes: Icebreakers - Play an icebreaker game related to that days learning experience.

35 minutes: Using the provided program learning guide, go through to review, learn, and discuss the topic for the day.

5 minutes: Closing - Follow-up on outstanding action items





FAQs

HOW OFTEN WILL CLUBS BE COMMUNICATED WITH? WHO WILL COMMUNICATE WITH US?

Depending on your region, one of our highly qualified organizers will be reaching out to and meeting with your clubs on a quarterly basis to check in and hear any successes or help with any needs. You can always reach out to us as often as you need!

HOW WILL DATA BE COLLECTED TO DETERMINE THE EFFICACY OF OUR CLUB?

All clubs will be provided with their own online campus learning hub to help capture engagement and collect feedback.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES EXIST TO CONNECT WITH JOLT CLUBS ACROSS THE STATE?

Members of Jolt clubs across the state will have first access to attend any training events offered by our organization throughout the year such as Levantate Leadership and Arriba Las Mujeres.

WHAT INCENTIVES CAN BE PROVIDED TO KEEP STUDENT GROUPS ENGAGED OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES?

Jolt has plenty of volunteer opportunities that exist outside of the walls of your school. Students are welcome to volunteer with Jolt by reaching out to their regional organizer. Students will engage in calls to action in our learning hub which will allow them to earn badges that equate to hours that can be signed off on by an advisor.



To start your own club today, or if you have any additional questions, scan the QR code above to visit our website!



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WWW.JOLTINITIATIVE.ORG