



**LAGRANGE**  
GEORGIA

**Media Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 15, 2021**

## **LaGrange Youth Council Presents to the Mayor and City Council**

**LaGrange, Ga. April 15, 2021** – The 2020-2021 LaGrange Youth Council members presented to the LaGrange Mayor and City Council Tuesday (4/13) evening at the regular city council meeting.



### **2020-2021 LaGrange Youth Council with the Mayor and City Council**

Pictured from left to right, 2nd row: Councilman Nathan Gaskin, Mayor Pro Tem Tom Gore, Councilman Mark Mitchell, Mayor Jim Thornton, Councilman LeGree McCamey, Councilman Jim Arrington & City Manager Meg Kelsey. Front row: LYC Vice-Chair Caroline Shelton, LYC Advisor Adam Speas, LYC Advisor Jeremy Andrews, Riley Whitlow, Eileen Hwang, LYC Historian Mary Frances Smith, Mollie Olinger, LYC Chairperson Zoie Mitchell, MacKenzie Mitchell, Milly Criswell, Lauren Hale, Ka'Various Perry, Elijah Langston, Khamani Philpotts & Kate Asbell.

Not pictured: Councilman Willie T. Edmondson, Louise Dodson, Ella Eiland, Katy Beth Bedingfield, Jamal Jones, Tripp Hollstrom, William Pitts, Miller DeVane, Sydney Edelson, Kannon Key, Hamilton Bedingfield & Addie Eiland.

Council members spent the year working on two main projects focusing on mental health and mentorship. The group voted earlier in the year to adopt these issues.

The Mental Health Committee created a Zoom discussion that can be shared as a video to provide answers to frequently asked questions on mental health issues that today's youth are facing. Mental Health Professional, Dr. Kelly Veal joined members of the LaGrange Youth Council on the Zoom, along with some of her students at LaGrange College. To view the video click on this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/LaGrangeYouthCouncil/videos/188188236277531>

The Mentorship Committee teamed up with Success by Six to create videos of LaGrange Youth Council members reading books for children to watch and promote reading in our youth. We created a total of fifty-four videos as well as a YouTube channel, which includes the videos, thumbnails, and branding for the channel. Gail Gordon from Success by Six provided insight, guidance, and also provided the books for the LYC students to read. To view the Success by 6 YouTube channel click on this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf1c6FNwnOM0sT6atB\\_pwCw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf1c6FNwnOM0sT6atB_pwCw)

The LaGrange Youth Council is an advisory board composed of 12 junior and 12 senior high school students from area high schools. The local youth provide advice and counsel to the local governing body. The Youth Council gives our local youth a more formal role in the local decision making process offering real world experiences with elected bodies.



LYC Chairperson Zoie Mitchell presents to the Mayor and Council Tuesday evening

Twenty-four students from LaGrange High, Troup High, LaGrange Academy and Springwood School participated in the LaGrange Youth Council for the 2020-2021 school year. Members include Kate Asbell, Hamilton Bedingfield, Katy Beth Bedingfield, Milly Criswell, Miller DeVane, Louise Dodson, Sydney Edelson, Addie Eiland, Ella Eiland, Lauren Hale, Tripp Hollstrom, Eileen Hwang, Jamal Jones, Kannon Key, Elijah Langston, MacKenzie Mitchell, Zoie Mitchell, Mollie Olinger, Ka'Various Perry, Khamani Philpotts, William Pitts Caroline Shelton, Mary Frances Smith & Riley Whitlow.

For more information on the LaGrange Youth Council go to [lagrangega.org/Home/Youth\\_Council](http://lagrangega.org/Home/Youth_Council).

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