



YouthCity

Letter from the Director

July 02, 2026

Hello YouthCity Families!

We are excited to announce our programming plans for the 2026-27 school year. This year, Salt Lake City's Division of Youth & Family will be providing six afterschool programs for elementary age youth, three middle school programs and two programs supporting high schoolers. In response to funding changes and to better serve our community, we'll be combining our Sorenson campus programs into one expanded K-6 program beginning August 2026 and launching the new YouthCity Northwest K-6 program this fall, made possible by a strong partnership with Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation.

Due to changes in federal grant funding, we have realigned our school-age programs to ensure we can continue to provide high-quality programming in every neighborhood throughout the city. Sweeping changes to federal grant funding is impacting out-of-school time programs throughout the nation. In June 2026, the Salt Lake City Council approved Mayor Mendenhall's budget recommendation to increase the operation budget for Youth & Family with one-time funding to replace the loss of federal grant dollars. Based on Utah state law any proposed property tax increase requires the local municipality to engage in the Truth and Taxation process which is scheduled for August 2026.

Knowing that securing after-school programming is critical for many, we will increase enrollment numbers for sites once the Truth and Taxation process is completed. Should you be interested in registering for the 2026-27 afterschool program, please complete a registration form on our website https://link.sl.gov/YC_Find_a_Program. YouthCity staff will confirm enrollment based on our initial site capacity and wait list kids once each program is full. Should the additional funding be approved, we will contact families on the waitlist and enroll kiddos until we reach our final capacity limit. Please see the table below for site specific enrollment information.

Registration information for YouthCity Government and YouthCity Employment, our dynamic programs for high school students, will be released later this summer.

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have questions and thank you for trusting us with your children for another school year.

In partnership,

Liz Rich - *Youth & Family Director*

Angel Gomez - *Youth & Family Associate Director K-6*

Patty Vaquera-Estrada - *Youth & Family Associate Director 7-12*

K-6 Elementary Program Sites & Leadership		Program Design & Capacity
Central City Rec Center- <i>615 S 300 E</i>	Fernando Puga	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Fairmont Park - <i>1040 E Sugarmont Dr</i>	Lauren Underwood	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Liberty Park - 1031 S 600 E	Jess Ung	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Northwest Rec Center - <i>1255 W Clark Ave</i>	Michael Vargas	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 40 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 70
Ottinger Hall - 233 N Canyon Road	Connie Paredes-Pozas	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Sorenson Rec Center – <i>855 W California Ave</i>	Lola Paredes	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 40 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 70

7-8 Middle School Program Sites & Leadership		Program Design & Capacity
Central City Rec Center - <i>615 S 300 E</i>	Patricia Vaquera-Estrada	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Northwest Rec Center- <i>1255 W Clark Ave</i>	Patricia Vaquera-Estrada	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
Sorenson Rec Center – <i>1383 S 900 W</i>	Patricia Vaquera-Estrada	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40

9-12 High School Program Sites & Leadership		Program Design & Capacity
YouthCity Employment - TBD	Erica Andino	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40
YouthCity Government - TBD	Angela Romero	August 2026 Enrollment: 30 <i>Enrollment will increase by 10 depending on the outcome of Truth and Taxation.</i> Proposed Final Enrollment: 40