



BELIEFS + VALUES = OUR INTEGRITY
(what we say) (what we invest in) (how closely the two align)

VISION STATEMENT

New Orleans is a city where the full self-expression, leadership, creativity, and culture of all children and youth comes together to create a true community where everyone succeeds.

This is who the children and youth of New Orleans are, and this is where we are going:

- We are community builders. Regardless of the communities we come from, our backgrounds, or the schools we attend, we are part of the solution, not the problem.
- We have experiences, we face problems, and we come up with creative solutions. These are all valid. We are worthy of being heard and included.
- There is no future for New Orleans without us.
- We can define our own story, and our story of New Orleans must reflect our contribution and leadership. The story must be for us, about us, by us.
- We recognize as a city that each generation has its movement that is advanced by youth leaders. Today, our generation sets the stage for the next one to come.
- The children and youth of New Orleans are not broken or damaged. We can rise above circumstances and have the ability to define our own path. We are beautiful. We believe in our healing, our restoration, and our future.
- New Orleans children and youth represent a powerful, unified, diverse, socially conscious, intelligent network, capable of working with adults to lead New Orleans in becoming a more compassionate, just, and equitable city.

THINKING OF THE NEW ORLEANS YOUTH MASTER PLAN

— IDEAS FROM THE WISDOM OF YOUTH

- **POLICIES AND LAWS** passed in support of NOLA youth
- Action taken on **SUICIDE PREVENTION** and mental health
- Further **ADVANCEMENTS IN EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** (mainly lower income areas)
- Making sure **TECHNOLOGY** is available to support education and distance learning
- More **LGBTQ + SAFE SPACES**
- Improvement in **HOW SCHOOLS ARE FUNDED**
- Our input should be present in government
- **LOCAL SURVEYS** of what we are interested in so we can build on that
- Have **SAFE PLACES** where the youth can go so that they can express their passion
- Have events the youth are able to come together and express themselves (youth art shows, talent shows)
- Strive to **HELP YOUTH** with their **FEELINGS**
- Educate people on mental health and **SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES**
- Better **SCHOOL COUNSELING** and be there to guide and comfort students
- Personal issues handled in better ways
- We want to see the change (**PETITIONS, YOUTH LEAD MOVEMENTS**)
- Having space to develop and be able to **LEARN TO DEVELOP INDEPENDENTLY**
- Instead of the negative being broadcasted **HAVE THE POSITIVE BROADCASTED**
- You cannot opt out of politics as a youth. Youth need to be more involved in politics.
- Political leaders, organization leaders, and parents **ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PROBLEMS AND HELP FORM A SOLUTION**
- Adults would encourage youth so we can **MAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT BEING JUDGED** and we can be **TREATED SERIOUSLY**

