

Lewiston Youth Advisory Council

Annual Appointment of Members

July 2020 – July 2021

LYAC Was Established by the City Council in 2001

www.lewistonmaine.gov/lyac

Thank You to Outgoing Seniors – LHS Grads

Carolyn Adams



Lillith Price-Wharff



Fazla Karim



Tonight's Appointments

How Were Youth Selected?

- **Spring Community Promotion**: Schools, Social Media, Press Release, E-mail Blasts to Include Youth Focused Entities, Lewiston's Web Site
- **Applications**: Submitted Online
- **Interview Panel (Via ZOOM This Year)**:
 - Council Liaison Zachary Pettengill
 - Council Liaison Luke Jensen
 - 2019 – 2020 LYAC Chair Hope Rubito
 - 2019 – 2020 LYAC Vice-Chair Katie Morin
 - Dottie Perham-Whittier, LYAC Advisor



Elissa Nadeau

New Member

“I am getting the opportunity to help my community thanks to the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council.”



Iday Abdi

New Member

“ I want to serve on the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council because it will be a fun way to learn more about Lewiston and the people who live here. ”



Elena Clothier

New Member

“Lewiston is a fascinating place with a lot of untapped potential. I’m particularly interested in how the arts can inspire community and how I can make a positive change at a local level.”

Topics On New Members' Minds Shared During Interviews

- Incorporating Public Art to Make Lewiston More of a Destination/Enhance Its Reputation
- Communicating Statewide That Lewiston has A Lot to Offer
- Decreasing the *“Dirty Lew”* Reference About Lewiston
- Reducing the Divide Stigma of the Downtown & Other Sections of the City
- Seeking Ways for People to Get to Know Each Other – Not Just Saying *“Hi”* as They Pass Each Other
- Being More Accepting of All Sides of an Issue
- Assisting Refugees with Resources They Might Need
- Mental Health/Coping with Stress

These thoughts will be discussed along with returning members' thoughts during August orientation. All members will collectively decide what they'd like to focus on first.



Hope Rubito

Returning Member

“I applied to LYAC with hopes of creating change in my own community, to make a difference in not only my life but for the lives of others. I love my city, and I wanted to become closer with it. LYAC was and still continues to be the foundation of that very connectedness.”



Katie Morin

Returning Member

“I joined the Youth Council because I wanted to help develop a more positive image for my city. As part of the future of the community, I want to be involved in creating that positive image.”



Damon DeWitt

Returning Member

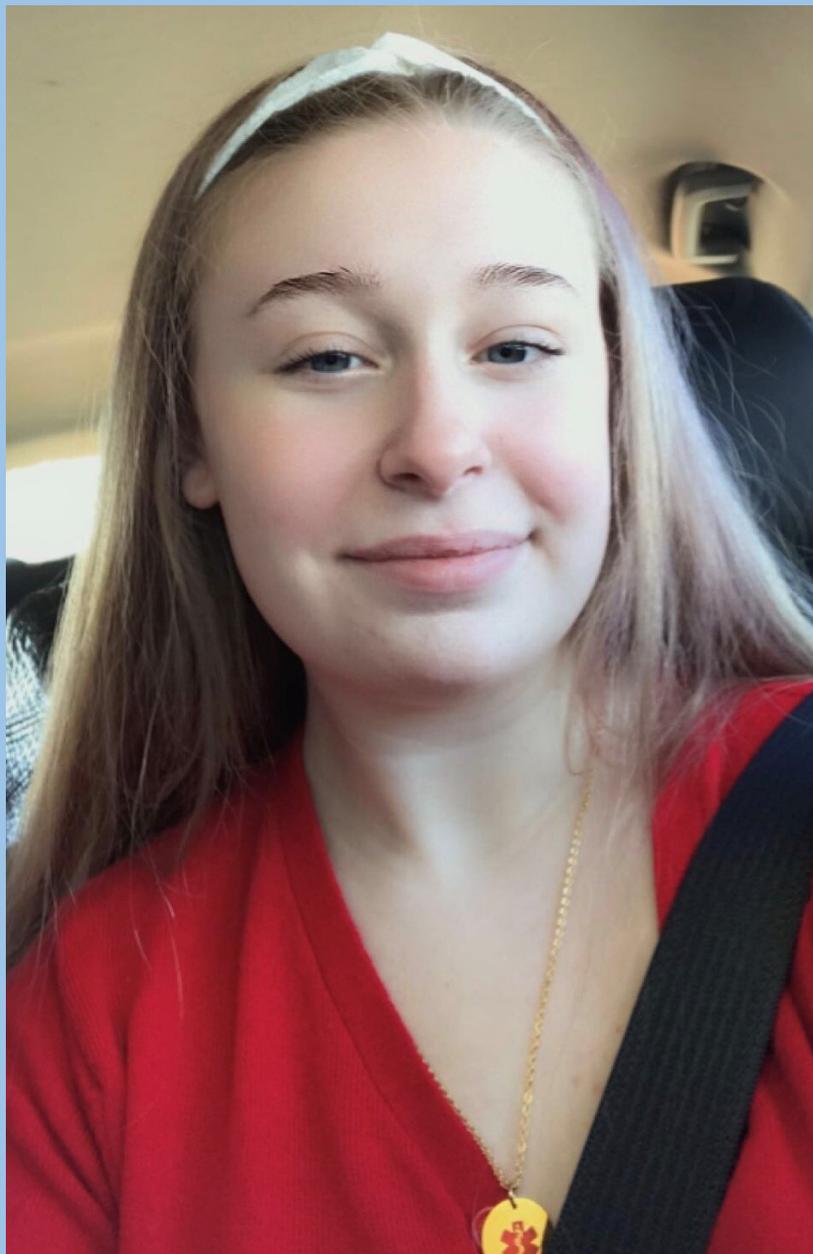
“I'm Damon DeWitt and this is my third year serving on the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council. I enjoy being a member because I am able to actively serve my community in positive ways with my peers.”



Ryleigh Emmert

Returning Member

“I like Lewiston due to its integrity as a city; it has a vast community, beautiful scenery across various locations, and immense diversity. I believe that there is truly something for everyone in Lewiston.”



Emily Fournier

Returning Member

“I love being a part of the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council because everyone brings a different perspective to the topics we discuss. It makes me happy to be a part of a great group of people working together on what is important to us and our community.”



Ariana Vallee

Returning Member

“Lewiston is a great place, and I want to show others what there is.”



Bre Mathieu

Returning Member

“I like Lewiston because of the community. I want to serve on the LYAC because I want to continue helping to bring the community together and decrease the Dirty Lew reference.”



Keira Potvin

Returning Member

“I love Lewiston because there are so many things to do around here. You can go out to eat at a local restaurant and then after go watch a sports game. Also, I love Lewiston because we aren’t too far away from the beach or the mountains. I want to serve on the council to help change Lewiston’s negative perception from people who don’t live around here.”



Julia Paquette

Returning Member

“I like to serve on the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council because I am part of the bigger voice for the kids in Lewiston, and I’m able to help make a difference.”



Olivia Deschenes

Returning Member

“Lewiston is an environment in which many ideas, diversity, and cultures come together and form a strong sense of community. It is a place where people can find opportunities in order to flourish.”



Cadence Nadeau

Returning Member

“LYAC has given me the opportunity to meet new people and become more involved with helping the residents of our city.”

What's Next?

Day-Long Orientation in August (6 Feet Apart)

1. Team Building Activities
2. Presentations from City Staff, i.e., *Overview of Municipal Government; Economic Development in Lewiston*
3. Leadership Training
4. Brainstorm/Decide What to Start Working On
5. Set 1st Meeting Date