



Latest from Youth Leaders

Attention all prospective [International Humanitarian Law Youth Action Campaign](#) (IHL YAC) advocates! We are pleased to share the annual theme for the 2021-2022 academic year, [Preservation of Cultural Property](#), which strives to answer why cultural property is at risk during wartime, how IHL protects cultural property during armed conflicts, and what we can do to advocate for compliance with the rules of war. Participants in the program will also learn about the history and development of IHL, the Geneva Conventions, best practices for building a successful awareness campaign and more.

For more information, visit RedCross.org/YAC or the [IHL YAC page](#) on the Exchange. To get more involved, contact your local IHL YAC coordinator or email IHLyouth@redcross.org.



The 2021 Youth Action Campaign Virtual Summit

Every year, the American Red Cross' International Humanitarian Law Youth Action Campaign (IHL YAC) chooses a new theme for youth and young adult Red Crossers to focus on as they conduct their activities. For the 2020-2021 cycle, the IHL YAC topic was [Education in War](#) – the destruction of educational systems during armed conflicts and the protections IHL provides. Over 100 teams participated in the program, and 25 advocates were selected to attend the 2021 YAC Virtual Summit as division representatives to honor their achievements and be the first youth to be trained in next year's theme, [Preservation of Cultural Property](#).

The Summit Series has many events open to all youth. Register for sessions that interest you below:

- [July 13 at 12:00 p.m. ET](#): Leading with Your Strengths
- [July 14 at 12:00 p.m. ET](#): Character Does Matter
- [July 20 at 2:00 p.m. ET](#): On the Front Lines of Preserving Cultural Property with Colonel (Retired) Richard Jackson
- [July 23 at 11:00 a.m. ET](#): IHL on the Small Screen – *Blood & Treasure* with producer Mark Vlasic
- [July 24 at 11:00 a.m. ET](#): Summit 2021 Presentations
- [July 26 at 1:00 p.m. ET](#): IHL YAC National Symposium

Youth Volunteer Spotlight: Patrick Bednarz



Patrick Bednarz is a returning advocate to the [International Humanitarian Law Youth Action Campaign \(IHL YAC\) Summit](#) and also serves as the Arizona and New Mexico Region's IHL YAC Coordinator

Two years ago, Patrick Bednarz knew nothing about the IHL YAC program. However, upon joining a local campaign, he quickly fell in love with its mission to empower youth to learn about the rules of armed conflict. His experiences inspired him to continue engaging with the IHL YAC this past cycle in which he and his team taught others about [Education in War](#) both virtually and in-person.

On [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#), Patrick and his peers shared posts, stories and polls about the topic that had over 10,000 views and 500 engagements. When their high school reopened, they also gave a presentation about IHL to all in-person students, which was followed by a bingo game reviewing what they just learned.

Patrick encourages everyone interested in the IHL YAC to “just do it! The program is super flexible, so it can accommodate all ideas and all schedules.”

Thanks for being an amazing IHL Advocate, Patrick! We can't wait to see what new ideas you have for next year.

Resource Spotlights

- [July 28 at 11:00 a.m. ET](#): IHL Career Panel
- [July 30 at 12:00 p.m. ET](#): Harry Potter and the Deathly Violations of IHL

Expand Your Knowledge



Did you know that a person can die from severe blood loss in less than 5 minutes? Learn how to face this life-threatening emergency by enrolling in First Aid for Severe Trauma (FAST), the first national STOP THE BLEED course specifically designed for high school students, coming August 19, 2021. The course and digital materials will be offered at no charge to high school students under the age of 19. Tell us what you think about bleeding control courses in schools by taking our [3-minute survey](#). Learn more about FAST by clicking [here](#).

What is YouthWire?

Created by your National Youth Council, YouthWire is a monthly e-newsletter containing important Red Cross youth volunteer opportunities, stories, and resources for youth, young adults and youth champions! We are always looking to highlight great stories and want to hear what awesome things are happening in your region!

Let us know what's new for you!

Questions about youth volunteering with the American Red Cross?
Email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org

Get Social and Share!

Follow our Facebook and new Instagram page for updates, events and reminders!

Facebook: [@AmericanRedCrossYouthNetwork](#)
Instagram: [@americanredcrossyouth](#)

Share this newsletter with your peers and friends or have them email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org to **subscribe to our newsletter**.

Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!

The time you spend volunteering is critical to the American Red Cross. It is important that volunteer hours are submitted through Volunteer Connection so that they can be tracked as part of the overall mission.

Help us tell the story of the incredible impact youth & young adults have by logging your hours today! Use this helpful tip sheet to walk through how to submit your volunteer hours on Volunteer Connection! We also have this great new video to aid you in the process of logging your hours on the desktop version and mobile app version of Volunteer Connection!



[Unsubscribe](#) from YouthWire



Summer is not only the perfect time for relaxation, but also the perfect time to learn from our fellow volunteers and see how we can further engage with the Red Cross mission. One place where you can get inspiration is RedCrossYouth.org, which has many resources you can explore for ideas on how to get more involved. For example, the National Youth Council recently published [an article](#) featuring the 2020-2021 Field Ambassadors and their projects such as Arthi Venkatakrishnan's "Speaking Red Cross" event and Hamid Torabzadeh's work with the READYteens Program. You can also visit the [Crash Course Call \(CCC\) page](#) to check out previous sessions and register for upcoming ones like the "Starting a Red Cross Club" CCC on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. ET – RSVP for it [here!](#)

July Fundraising Highlights



Last year's disaster season was one of the most devastating ones yet, with hurricanes, wildfires and a myriad of other events causing extensive damage and forever changing lives from coast to coast. To better prepare for the 2021 disaster season, we invite you to help impacted communities and families in need by joining [Mission Red](#) and organizing a live stream charity fundraiser supporting [Disaster Relief and Recovery](#).

We recommend [registering on Tiltify](#) and hosting a charity stream fundraiser using platforms such as Twitch, YouTube and Facebook Gaming. Check out this [instruction guide](#) or visit RedCross.org/Gamers for tips and resources on how to get started. You can also win exclusive prizes by reaching different fundraising milestones. For additional support, [visit and join the Red Cross Discord](#), follow us on Twitter [@RedCrossGaming](#), or email CharityStream@RedCross.org.