

2024 CENTER OF TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT RECAP



In its second year, the Dr. Sachiko Kuno Center of Transformation (CoT) has grown! Our 10-week intensive was a huge success with over 160 teens engaging with our curriculum, and on June 16, 2024, we welcomed over 50 teens from across the Movement to the second annual Center of Transformation Summit (formerly known as NASS).

Participants from Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington (BGCW), including Clubhouse @ Your House international members from Canada, and members from five other Boys & Girls Club organizations (Atlantic City; Annapolis & Anne Arundel County; North Alabama; Puerto Rico; Sarasota and DeSoto Counties) participated in a week of learning, advocacy, networking, fun, and world-class experiences

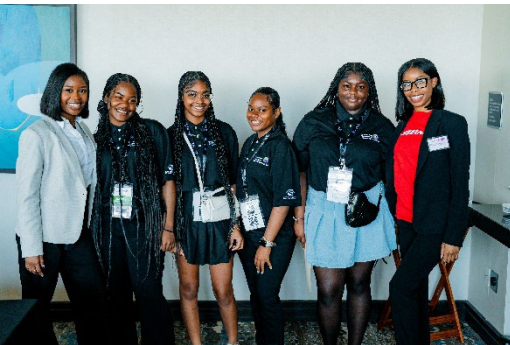
unique to the nation's capital! While it would take pages and pages to fully recapitulate the week's events, below are some of the highlights!

MONDAY

Our teens participated in the Change Makers Workshop learning about eco-anxiety, college readiness, and networking and advocacy followed by tours of Georgetown University and Howard University. The night ended with an amazing tour of Washington, DC.

TUESDAY

Our teens made their voices heard at the National Youth Summit 2.0, co-hosted by the US Department of Commerce and BGCW. With amazing insights, great questions, and impressive networking skills on display, our Summit teens made us proud and represented Boys & Girls Clubs beautifully. Our teens then spent the afternoon at the National African American Museum of History and Culture. And our evening ended with a garden party at the historic Evermay Mansion hosted by our program sponsor, Dr. Sachiko Kuno.



WEDNESDAY

The day started with an exclusive viewing of the Emancipation Proclamation at the National Archives Museum, and then the teens engaged with conversations around DEI in the industry and creating more sustainable designs in aviation at The Boeing Company Headquarters. To celebrate Juneteenth, our teens did a park clean up at Anacostia Park, roller skated (many for the first time) or fished (and baited their own hooks), and had a community cookout fellowshiping with each other, corporate volunteers from United Airlines, and local DC residents.

THURSDAY

To watch our teens engage with executives from four companies at the Career Exploration and Exposure Fair was a beautiful sight to behold. The confidence and pride they exhibited impressed the companies represented there; and even more importantly, the teens surprised themselves as they pushed beyond their comfort zones. The afternoon was spent on the Hill with United States Senator Sheldon Whitehouse discussing critical issues around climate change and sustainability. And then that evening, there were all the ingredients for a final night of fun: bowling, arcades, dancing, and pizza!

FRIDAY

The teens who arrived on Sunday on planes, trains, and automobiles were not the same teens who left Washington, DC on Friday afternoon! They extended their Boys & Girls Club family, they gained important 21st century skills, they had important conversations, and they added to a growing legacy of young changemakers using their voice for good! At our Closing Celebration Luncheon, we witnessed youth overcome their fear of public speaking, we watched lifelong friendships form, and we celebrated amazing young people from across the Movement who care about big issues!

