



Last year the YMCA Youth and Government program inspired nearly 600 teens to learn about our government. Overall 3,261 teens participated in a variety of leadership activities developing self-respect and citizenship.



Ken Mighell and Valencia Mobley

YMCA kid

Ken Mighell



Six decades might span their time but Ken Mighell and Valencia Mobley do share something special in common, YMCA Youth and Government. In 1947, Ken was a senior in high school participating at the Park Cities YMCA, and traveled to Austin with the High-Y Model Legislator Youth and Government program, the very first YMCA Youth and Government program. Valencia, a Richardson YMCA teen, is a high school freshman with two trips to Austin under her belt with today's Youth and Government program.

Through the years the program has evolved from the early days when there was only a legislative component to the program, to today's program which provides elements of all the branches of government and even media opportunities. Both Ken and Valencia were

drawn to the idea of learning more about government and putting our country's founding ideals to work through law.

Ken has made a career out of law. A former U.S. Attorney, he has practiced in the private sector for more than 25 years and serves on the YMCA Board of Directors. Valencia is still making her way, she finds the Youth and Government program provides her with great "think on your feet" and public speaking skills. She loves creating bills, learning parliamentary procedures and being around responsible kids who respect each other and their ideas. They may be different generations but these teen leaders are YMCA kids!