



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Lalita Llerena
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA
813.224.9622 ext. 1240
813.545.7772 (cell)
Lalita.Llerena@tampaymca.org

Tampa YMCA To Celebrate Teens with Inaugural Banquet

Tampa, FL (April 10, 2014) – The [Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) will put the spotlight on teens at an inaugural Teen Banquet on Friday, May 9th at 6pm at The Regent in Riverview. YMCA Teen Leaders are planning and executing the top-notch event and are expecting more than 300 teens and their families.

The goal of the banquet is to showcase and celebrate the impact the Tampa Y's teen development programs are having on the Tampa Bay community. Presentations will include video, interactive speaking and guest speakers on the following programs:

Teen Achievers: This program targets academically at-risk middle and high school students who need intense academic and/or social support. The program improves students' academic performance and builds employability skills through summer leadership workshops, afterschool academic assistance and Saturday Academies, which provide students with mentoring and job-shadowing opportunities.

Teen Leaders' Club: This program is for students in grades 7 - 12 who want to develop their leadership skills and make an impact in their community by using their ideas, strengths and interests. Teens have the opportunity to meet new people, build new relationships, learn valuable skills, get involved in the community and learn what it truly means to be a Teen Leader. Teen Leaders Club focuses on three main components: leadership development, service to others and physical fitness.

Youth In Government (YIG): This program gives students the opportunity to serve as part of a youth-run, youth-led model government process. The Tampa Y's YIG program is designed to help delegates understand in order to lead; you must first learn how to serve others. YIG's model government process is designed to prepare students for a life of engaged and active citizenship built on the values of civil debate, statesmanship and research-based policy solutions.

Tickets cost \$15 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Senior Program Director Megan Looby at megan.looby@tampaymca.org or 813-839-0210 ext. 2225. Media members interested in covering the event should contact Communications Director Lalita Llerena at lalita.llerena@tampaymca.org or 813-545-7772.

About the Tampa Y

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is a cause-driven [4-star charity](#) and one of the area's leading nonprofits, strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 19 facilities engage more than 167,000 men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve our community's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The Tampa Y has long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. www.tampaymca.org