

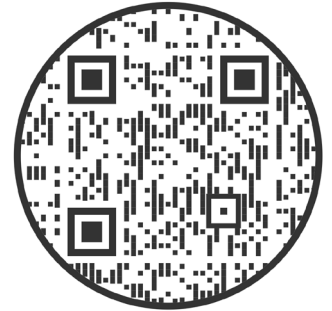
# NEXTGEN ROUNDTABLE: AI & DEMOCRACY SUMMER INSTITUTE

JULY 13-19, 2025 | STANFORD UNIVERSITY, PALO ALTO, CA



As technology plays a growing role in our society and politics, how can we help young people understand artificial intelligence and its implications on our world? How should we monitor and regulate AI? How can we make sure youth voices are heard as decisions are made to impact their future?

This July 13-19, high school students are invited to join **Close Up**, the **Deliberative Democracy Lab at Stanford University (DDL)**, and the **Crowdsourced Democracy Team at Stanford Engineering for NextGen Roundtable: AI & Democracy Summer Institute** on the Stanford campus. Building on the deliberative practices of last summer's America in One Room: The Youth Vote, students will explore how rapid changes in technology and AI impact education, the environment, the economy, and our democracy and elections. Hearing from tech innovators, academics, and advocates, students will evaluate a variety of policies at the intersection of tech and society, produce a youth report on their own recommendations, and have the chance to earn a Certification in Civil Discourse through Close Up and DDL.



**APPLY TODAY!**

## INSTITUTE DETAILS

This institute is for students who are interested in how tech and AI intersect with education, the environment, the economy, and/or democracy. Major components include:

- **Engagement with Stanford Faculty and Other Experts:** Students will engage with leaders of DDL and Stanford professors and researchers from across the university. Panel seminars will include policymakers, industry experts, and academics representing a range of opinion and expertise.
- **AI 101 Workshop:** With the guidance of Stanford Engineering, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the nuances of AI, including the basics of large language models and how AI makes sense of data.
- **Policy Inquiry Workshops:** Students will work together to review technology-related policy proposals, understand the issues at hand, and generate questions for expert panels.
- **Deliberation Workshops:** Building on the knowledge they gain from experts, students will work to find consensus around a series of policy recommendations for each issue.
- **Student Presentations and Facilitation Training:** The institute will culminate with students sharing their policy recommendations in each of the issue areas. Students will then take part in a facilitation training to learn how to serve as [Civic Ambassadors](#) in their home communities.
- **Campus Exploration:** Students will get to know the world-renowned Stanford campus and have the chance to explore the Virtual Reality Lab, take an official campus tour, attend special events, and hear from a panel of current Stanford students about their experiences.
- **Social & Cultural Activities:** Students will experience the cultural hub of San Francisco through such group activities as sporting events, live performances, and movie and bowling nights.

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## LOCATION & TUITION

**Location:** All academic components will take place at Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA. Students will be housed at a nearby hotel.

**Tuition:** Cost includes all institute sessions, evening activities, meals, and daytime and nighttime supervision and security. *Transportation to and from Palo Alto is not included.*

- Student residential tuition: \$3,500 (students will stay at an area hotel)
- Student nonresidential tuition: \$3,150 (hotel accommodations are not included)

## ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION

The institute is open to students who, at the time of the program, will be rising tenth graders through rising college freshmen. All students must complete the [application](#) and submit a teacher recommendation. Space is limited.

## ABOUT THE PARTNERS

**Close Up** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, civic education organization that informs, inspires, and empowers young people to become active citizens. Since 1971, we have served more than one million students and educators through experiential learning programs in our nation's capital and in local communities, professional development, and curriculum design and consulting. Our goal is to connect what students learn in class to the real world around them and help them articulate their own views, listen to those of others, and engage with people of different backgrounds with tolerance and understanding. To learn more, visit [closeup.org](https://closeup.org).

**The Deliberative Democracy Lab at Stanford University** is devoted to research about democracy and public opinion obtained through Deliberative Polling®, a practice of public consultation that employs random samples of the citizenry to explore how opinions would change if they were more informed. Deliberative Polling® was developed by DDL Director **James Fishkin** and has been used in more than 50 countries and over 150 projects at varying levels of government and society. DDL Associate Director **Alice Siu** has advised policymakers and political leaders at various levels of government worldwide, including leaders in Argentina, Brazil, and China. To learn more, visit <https://deliberation.stanford.edu/>.

**The Stanford Crowdsourced Democracy Team**, housed within **Stanford Engineering**, is dedicated to scaling up collaboration and decision-making. The team envisions an era in which large communities can deliberate and brainstorm with one another on important issues with the aid of intelligently designed algorithms and digital communication platforms. The team believes that this will not only aid decision-makers in harnessing collective intelligence, but also lead to community members who are more informed and engaged in making their communities better. Professor of Management Science & Engineering and (by courtesy) Computer Science **Ashish Goel** does research in design, analysis, and applications of algorithms. He also designed and prototyped several of Twitter's early algorithmic and monetization products. To learn more, visit [voxpath.stanford.edu](https://voxpath.stanford.edu).