



28th Annual Girls' Day at the State House

March 2024

Agenda

For 28 years, Girls' Day at the State House has brought 100 8th-grade girls and gender expansive youth to the Maine State House to learn more about their government and inspire them to shape their communities. Since 2020, Girls' Day has added a virtual component to increase participants' opportunities to connect with legislators, lobbyists, activists, and each other to understand why policy matters, and how to take action to make change.

Girls' Day at the Statehouse seeks to:

- Help participants understand how laws and policies affect their lives,
- Learn more about how public policy is shaped in Maine, and
- Inspire young people to create change by using their voices to affect policies, laws, and systems.

It is mostly virtual and will take place each Monday in March from 3:30-5pm. In addition to these virtual activities we are proud to bring participants to an in-person day at the State House on Friday, March 15. The Participants will have the opportunity to connect, share their observations and experiences, and access tools and resources in a virtual classroom outside of the live sessions.

Session 1: Laying the Groundwork

Monday, March 4, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

"What is Activism?" - a presentation from staff at Hardy Girls and a panel presentation from members of the Hardy Girls' Feminist Action Board (FAB).

Session 2: Lessons from Leaders

Monday, March 11, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

A panel of elected officials join the participants to share lessons about running for office.

Session 3: From a Bill to a Law

Friday, March 15, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Meet the 2024 Girls' Day cohort in person at the Maine State House in Augusta. Learn from lobbyists, staff and elected officials about the legislative process and follow a bill become a law.

Session 4: Taking the Next Step with Activism

Monday, March 18, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

A panel of youth-focused activists, organizers, and advocates from different issues areas join the participants to share their own experiences with social change.

Session 5: Debrief & Closing

Monday, March 25, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Wrap up and debrief the full program together. Identify ways to inspire change in the future.

Hosted by the Maine Women's Lobby Education Fund