



TUP Youth City Builders Program

What is 1UP?



1UP Youth City Builders is a youth leadership program run by Urban Minds, a non-profit organization based in Toronto with a mission to create meaningful ways for youth to shape equitable and sustainable cities.

The 1UP Program educates and empowers high school students across Ontario to become urban changemakers. This program develops future city builders, from being inspired to inspiring others.

"As an aspiring urban designer myself, I find 1UP is a really cool way to see how youth themselves can get involved in the urban change-making space, which I think is a really unique experience to have as high school students."

- Audy N, Grade 11

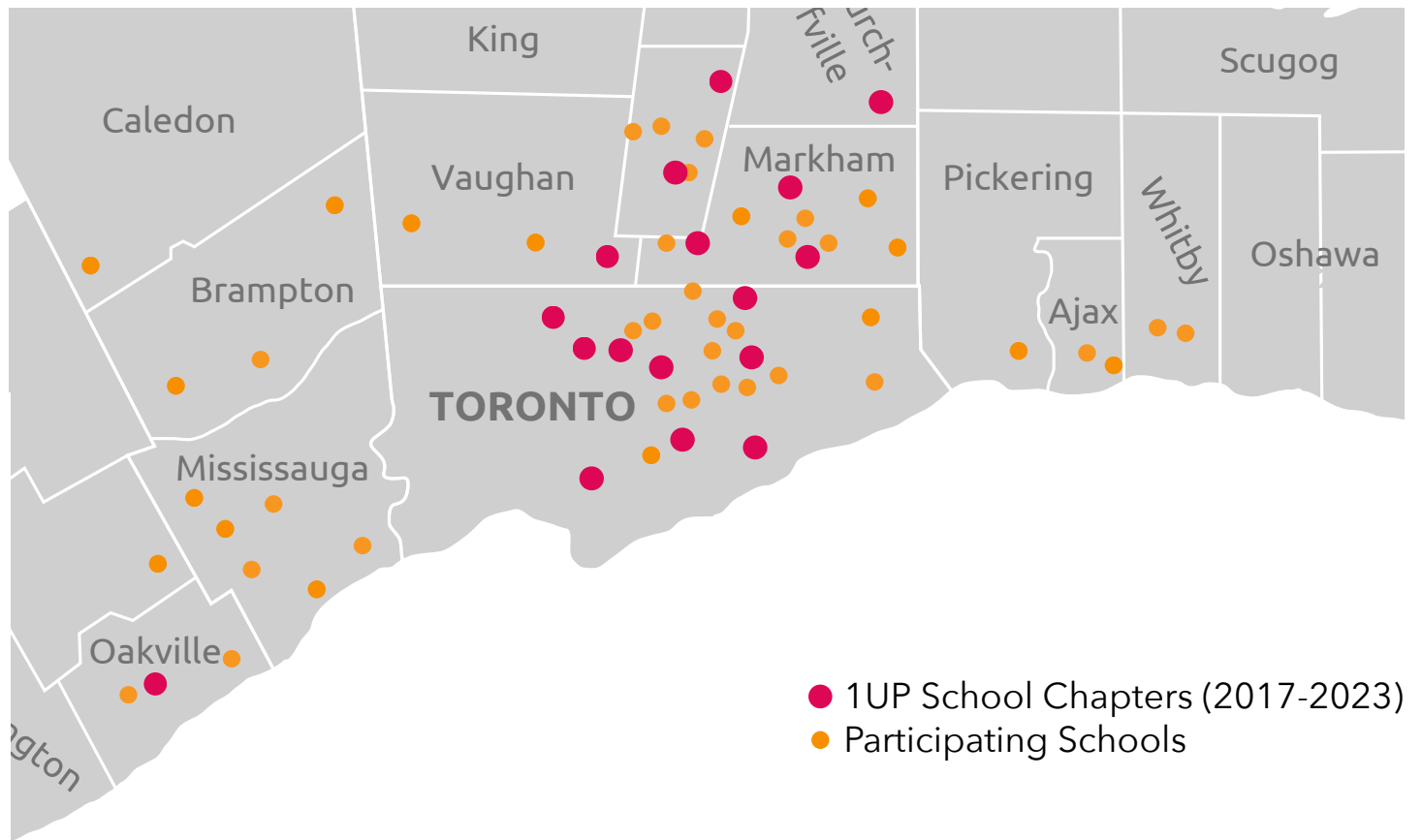
Our Vision

Youth and decision-makers will work together to create city-building solutions.

We believe youth are the untapped force of change in our cities. Creative, energetic, and honest, youth are the ideal visionary city-builders. Yet their voices go largely unheard. **We want to change that.**



Our Impact



By the numbers

Of all the participants we surveyed at the 1UP Conference in 2023,

92% were interested in pursuing city-building careers in the future

96% said they enjoyed the conference experience

100% were interested in attending future 1UP events

We are growing!

Since our very first event in 2017, we have now reached hundreds of students in over 60 schools in the Greater Toronto Area.

This year, we will be expanding our program into two neighbouring regions:

1. Hamilton
2. Kitchener-Waterloo

We are excited to empower more youth to become city builders in their communities.

1UP Fellowship

The 1UP Fellowship is a 10-month program for a select group of high school students who are interested in taking a deeper dive into city building and becoming changemakers in their communities. Supported by the team at Urban Minds, each 1UP Fellow will receive training before either launching a new school chapter or continuing an existing one at their own high school.

Upon completion, each 1UP Fellow will receive a certificate and volunteer hours for their work as community changemakers.

Leaders Lab August 2023

Leaders Lab is a two-day orientation camp for new 1UP Fellows. The 1UP Fellows will go on guided walking tours to learn about city building and participate in interactive games and activities covering topics including fundamental urban planning and design principles, leadership and teamwork, project management, and public speaking.



Guided walking tours of interesting urban spaces such as The Bentway in Toronto



Our urban scavenger hunt helps the 1UP Fellows build their observation skills



1UP Fellows participate in hands-on and engaging workshops



1UP Fellows work in teams to solve problems and generate solutions

1UP Fellowship

School Chapters September 2023 - June 2024

Once the 1UP Fellows return to school in September, they will launch (or re-launch) a school chapter, recruit students as chapter members, and follow one of the following streams:

Learners Stream

School chapters in this stream will receive a learning challenge every two months, with each challenge inviting the school chapters to research about a theme related to city building or opportunities for improvement in their neighbourhoods. At the end of each challenge, school chapters will compete with one another to create the best multimedia submission that summarizes their learning journey. The Learners Stream is suitable for all school chapters.

Design-Builders Stream

School chapters in this stream will select a specific urban or social issue to tackle in their community and embark on a project to develop and implement a solution. Each chapter will be paired with a mentor, a \$200 project stipend, a 1UP Starter Kit, and additional resources to support the project. Each chapter will also have the opportunity to win up to \$1,000 in additional funding at the Design-Build Pitches event during the 1UP Conference in March. The Design-Builders Stream requires greater time commitment and is recommended for chapters with at least 5 members committed to the project.

If a chapter has 10 or more committed members, they can opt to follow both streams.

"I got the amazing opportunity to gain tons of collaboration skills as I worked with adults and other high schoolers."

- Daniel S, Grade 10



1UP York Mills successfully transformed a storage room at school into a student lounge to promote mental health



1UP White Oaks were the winners of the 2023 Design-Build Pitches for their proposal to create outdoor seating at school

1UP Events

In addition to the 1UP Fellowship, the 1UP Program also hosts a number of events open to all high school students in Ontario who are curious about city-building professions, such as urban planning, architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering, etc.

1UP Conference March 2024

The 1UP Conference is our annual flagship event in March Break where we bring together high school students and professionals to celebrate and incubate city-building ideas. Highlights of the conference include:

- Guest speakers with diverse backgrounds and experiences
- Design-Build Pitches by participating 1UP School Chapters
- A “Design Jam” where student teams work together to develop a creative solution for a real site and client



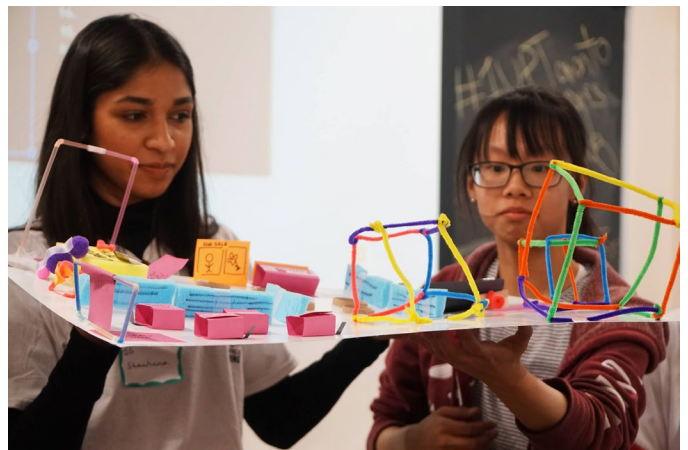
Guest speakers share their knowledge and experience with our participants



Students and volunteers meet and network throughout the event



Volunteer facilitators help guide the student teams during the Design Jam



Student teams present a prototype of their solution to the client and the audience

1UP Events

Office Tours Year-round

We partner with urban planning, architecture, and engineering firms in Ontario to host 1UP Office Tours for high school students. Students have the opportunity to experience firsthand the day-to-day job environment while gaining career insights from working professionals.



Our partners at SvN led participants around Distillery District as part of their Office Tour

Webinars Year-round

1UP Webinars are a curated series of online workshops covering topics from practical software skills to postsecondary applications to trending city-building topics, giving students a deeper understanding of the industry before they pursue a related career or postsecondary education.



Our partners at Bousfields presented on urban planning and design during World Town Planning Day in November

Local Events Year-round

Our Program Coordinators in Toronto, Hamilton, and Kitchener-Waterloo will be organizing free local events for participants who want to learn more about their city and meet like-minded peers.



Team picnic at Riverdale Park in Toronto to celebrate the end of the 2022 program year

How do I get involved?

Find an opportunity that is right for you:

- High school student
- High school teacher
- Parent or guardian
- University or college professor
- University or college student
- Planning/design professional
- Local councillor or school board trustee

1UP Fellowship Application



Apply to become a 1UP Fellow in the 2023-2024 Program Year by August 11, 2023.



Encourage your students or children to apply to the 1UP Fellowship.



Become a teacher supervisor for your 1UP School Chapter.

Learn more and apply at:

► 1uptoronto.org/apply

Volunteer with 1UP



Be a Program Coordinator to support the 1UP Program throughout the year.



Be a mentor for a 1UP School Chapter.



Be a one-time volunteer at a 1UP event.



Encourage your students to volunteer with 1UP to gain valuable experience.

Learn more and apply at:

► urbanminds.co/apply

Partner with 1UP



Host an event like a webinar or office tour with your organization.



Get in touch with your local 1UP School Chapter and support them in improving the community.

We can work with you to customize a partnership that works for your organization.

Contact us at:

► hello@urbanminds.co

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- Planning/design professional
- Local councillor or school board trustee

Sponsorship Opportunities



Sponsor the 1UP Fellowship in the 2023-2024 Program Year by August 4, 2023.



Sponsor the 1UP Conference 2024 by February 9, 2024.

We can work with you to customize a sponsorship that maximizes your impact.

Contact us at:

► hello@urbanminds.co

Monthly Newsletter



Stay up to date with our latest events and opportunities by subscribing to our monthly email newsletter:

► urbanminds.co/newsletter

Questions?



If you have any questions and inquiries, please contact us at:

► hello@urbanminds.co

Connect with us!



To follow our latest updates, find us at:

► [@urbanmindsTO](https://www.instagram.com/urbanmindsTO)



Check out our youth creator content at:

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Join our 1UP Network
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