Inclusion in Action!

Catalyzing the youth movement around inclusion and learning differences.

Today a keyword often brought up when discussing approaches to holistic education is the word inclusion, often leaving special education synthesizing the best way to make classrooms more inclusive. Some students have noticed that there is an absence of student-led initiatives to advocate for and foster inclusion both inside and outside of the classroom. Overall, there is a crucial need for more youth support in the inclusion movement.



What It's All about:

SENIA Youth puts students at the forefront of the inclusion movement, centering student voices and ideas when striving to bridge the gap for inclusive environments in schools. Led by student activists from around the world, SENIA Youth reaches eleven different countries through its inclusion chapter network. To help develop the inclusion club network, leaders at SENIA Youth have developed a framework for students and educators alike to quickly take flight in the creation of their inclusion clubs. Acting as the youth branch for SENIA, SENIA Youth provides the perfect opportunity for students to have an active voice in the inclusion movement.

The Core Team:

SENIA Youth additionally has a core team of members dedicated to promoting inclusion at the macro level and overseeing the expansive inclusion club network. Offering students areas to

grow in leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills, the SENIA Youth Core team is a perfect way to develop the inclusion network and allow for self-growth for students. SENIA Youth Core team offers a wide range of positions including graphic design, outreach and communications, and director of media. For more information on the positions offered by SENIA Youth please click here. To inquire about joining the core team please click here.

Examples of success from the core team:

- Mental health awareness and inclusion community platform available for all students and educators
- Weekly news articles for the SENIA Youth Blog (seniayouth.org)
- SENIA Youth Instagram for awareness with around 400 followers (@seniayouth)
- Development of the MHIC (Mental Health and Inclusion Coalition) a network of educators, students, and organizations dedicated to promoting inclusion and mental health



SENIA Youth chapters:

SENIA Youth Chapters build an inclusion club network allowing for students to develop ideas and create student-led initiatives Created to give each club the tools and strategies to empower youth voices and promote inclusion on campus, this starter pack aligns with the mission of SENIA (Special Education Network and Inclusion Association), while still allowing individual creativity on the behalf of student founders. For more information on starting a SENIA Youth Chapter please visit <u>seniayouth.org</u> and to apply for a chapter <u>please click here</u>.

Examples of success for the SENIA Youth Chapters:

- Selling socks resembling Trisomy-21 to raise awareness for people diagnosed with Down syndrome on World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD).
- Making connections with students in the intensive learning classroom at ISB during weekly interactive student lead sessions.
- Fostering inclusion by supporting students with learning differences through the TriKids Triathlon course.

Get involved today:

Check out the SENIA youth website (seniayouth.org) for more information on how to start an inclusion club chapter and join the SENIA Youth core team!