



# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

## APPLICATION

### BACKGROUND:

Thank you for your interest in the City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council (YAC). The purpose of the Council is to stimulate and foster the active participation of young individuals in the addressing of issues impacting the youth of the community to ensure leaders of tomorrow have input in the local government process today.

The YAC serves in an advisory capacity to the City of Alachua Commission. There are five (5) voting members of the YAC and a General Council made up of non-voting members. All voting members are appointed by the City of Alachua Commission. The General Council members are appointed by the voting members of the YAC.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants must be enrolled in in a public school, private school or a home education program within the city of Alachua in grades nine through twelve.

### MEETINGS:

The YAC meets at least quarterly or more often as directed by the YAC. The meetings are held in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers at Alachua City Hall and are open to the public.

**Instructions: Complete all fields below and on page 2 and submit application and letter of recommendation to:**

City of Alachua  
Attn: Deputy City Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 9  
Alachua, FL 32616

Student: Lacey Walls E-mail: laceywalls@gmail.com  
Home Address: 18802 NW 202 St City: High Springs State: FL Zip: 32643  
Home Phone: N/A Cell Phone: 352-514-5688  
School: Santa Fe High School Grade: 12  
Parent/Guardian: Brandi Walls Parent/Guardian Phone: 352-538-8387

*I have read and understand the commitment required as a member of the City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council. I will be a positive representative of youth in the community and serve to accomplish the goals and duties of the Youth Advisory Council.*

Student Signature: Lacey Walls Date: 8/29/19

Parent/Guardian Permission: *I give my permission for* Lacey Walls *to apply to and participate as a member of the City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: Brandi Walls Date: 8/29/2019



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## APPLICATION

Please check only one (1). I am applying for membership as a: ☒ Voting Member  
☐ General Council Member

1. Why do you want to serve as a member of the City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council?

In the future, I plan to enter a career in government work. This council will give me experience necessary to succeed in this career path in the future. The council also has the ability to benefit youth throughout Alachua, which I would love to be able to participate and provide my input on these actions to ensure they are successful.

2. Explain how you are involved in your school and/or community. List all extracurricular activities.

I am currently the President of Santa Fe's Speech and Debate team, a member of the community service club Beta, a babysitter, and a member of my church's youth group.

3. What skills, talents and abilities do you have that will be beneficial in accomplishing the goals and duties of the City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council?

As a competitive speaker, I have developed the skills necessary to properly articulate my ideas and have strong communication skills. Serving in other leadership roles has allowed me to become well-organized and to be ambitious, which I will direct into ensuring we benefit Alachua's youth.

4. List two (2) adult references (non-relatives) with phone numbers.

### Reference 1

Name: Gina Rivera  
Relationship: Former Teacher  
Phone: 352-514-9851

### Reference 2

Name: Maelee Forsberg  
Relationship: Family Friend  
Phone: 352-328-9493

5. Attach one (1) letter of recommendation from a staff/faculty member of your school.



# SANTA FE HIGH SCHOOL

16213 N.W. US Highway 441  
Alachua, Florida 32615  
Phone (386) 462-1125

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:  
Dr. Timothy E. Wright, Curriculum  
Mr. James Speer, Administration

PRINCIPAL: Dr. Elizabeth A. LeClear

15 March 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

Lacey Walls is the physical manifestation of an abstract idea. Ms. Walls is the proverbial “best student” that all teachers aspire to teach, a true to form white whale. In terms of quality of character, academic performance, and dedication to her craft, she is singularly qualified to be admitted to an elite undergraduate institution. So much so, that her legacy echoes through the halls of Santa Fe High School, whispers through the teachers’ lounge, and propagates a sense of pride and dedication in all. Ms. Walls is the single strongest student I have had the privilege to teach.

In terms of temperament, Lacey Walls is both kind and deeply thoughtful. Her humility is in stark contrast to the hubris which is commonly demonstrated by students of her aptitude. She is much more likely to respond carefully than to jump impulsively to rash conclusions. For this, among other attributes, she is universally respected by her peers and former faculty. In the time I have known Lacey, she has given her absolute full effort to the accomplishments listed on her resume and countless others. Ms. Walls never volunteers for a challenge unless she can fully dedicate herself to the task. The steady hand of Ms. Walls has also contributed to a robust track record of academic performance.

Over the past seven years, I have taught only a handful of students with Lacey Walls’ potential and none as committed to extracurricular activities in addition to academic performance. Her high school GPA suggests the same. From volunteering at the Humane Society, to participation in Beta as well as Interact Clubs, to her involvement with a local church, Lacey’s track record of holistic involvement is proven. And, while this is impressive in any candidate for admission, some students might be tempted to be superficially involved in extracurricular activities. This idea is anathema to Ms. Walls. She always lends a helping hand to those in need, bringing others up as she strives for constant self-improvement.

I also have the honor of being Lacey’s Debate Coach. She is the current Vice President, and President-elect of the 2019-20 school year. Ms. Walls has demonstrated a level of commitment and effort which is unrivaled in our program’s history. She has attended more tournaments and contributed to more success stories among her peers than any other student in the past seven years. As evidence, our team is currently ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in our league and Lacey is a co-participant in the 9<sup>th</sup> strongest public forum debate team in the State of Florida. Her own success story mirrors that of our club, in part, because Ms. Walls incites a spark of curiosity, hope, and dedication in others.

Ms. Walls is the type of student that all parents aspire their children to become and all teachers hope to teach. She is the exact type of person who has the ability AND will to learn all that an elite institution has to offer. Students and faculty, alike, often reflect on her myriad accomplishments, but they often linger on Lacey’s kindness toward others. Any school or employer would be lucky to have her. Call her Ishmael? No, the Lacey Walls.

Best Regards,

Chris Salamone, JD, MEd  
Director of Forensics  
Teacher, Social Studies

