



Success Stories



FELIPE ANCILOA

In October, 2005, Felipe Anciloa was a defendant found guilty of Minor in Consumption of Alcohol and Disorderly Conduct. He had attended a large party, alcohol was involved and he got into a fight with another student. He was an A student at Leander High School, a football player, and held a part-time job. He wanted a clean record, so he chose to take the Williamson County/YMCA Teen Court option, offered by Judge Staudt, Justice Court Pct. 2. By doing so, he agreed to allow other students to judge his actions, and assess a penalty.

When attending Teen Court he was immediately impressed with the caliber of students and the professional manner in which they conducted themselves. He realized they were learning a lot about the judiciary and law enforcement system. He wanted to be a part of it. After his sentence was completed he joined the Teen Court and became a very successful juror, juror foreman, and bailiff. He was extremely helpful and courteous. He regrets not knowing about Teen Court earlier. His participation in Teen Court helped him to realize his potential, and the necessity of making positive decisions for his life.

He finished high school and applied to the Military Academy of the United States in hopes of attending West Point for an International Business degree. He was accepted and is currently attending. He speaks of his participation in Teen Court as one of the most rewarding and positive experiences in his life.

ANDREW POTTS

Andrew Potts was introduced to the Williamson County/YMCA Teen Court through his participation in the Greater Williamson County YMCA. He and his family were active members. Andrew and his brothers, Eli and Nathan all participated in Teen Court throughout their high school years. Being homeschooled gave them the opportunity to perform a Teen Court mock trial for the participants at the annual Teen Pact Legislative program at the Capitol in Austin. Andrew, Eli & Nathan credit Teen Court for their ability to speak with confidence to individuals and to an audience.

Andrew became proficient in all the roles of the judiciary but liked the role of Prosecuting Attorney the best. He aspired to be a Supreme Court Judge. Because of his maturity and professionalism he was allowed the role of judge while still a junior. Andrew graduated from Texas A&M and is in his fourth year of law school at St. Mary's University. His involvement in Teen Court prompted his service and acceptance as an intern for the Texas Supreme Court, the Justice Court, and the Williamson County Attorney.

JOSH ANDERSON

In 1997 when Judge Staudt first approached the YMCA about a Teen Court program, a young 14-year-old YMCA member by the name of Josh Anderson was attending the YMCA Afterschool program in Round Rock. He was very reluctant about any speaking roles and chose to be a juror only. Training sessions were held at the Round Rock Family YMCA after school. By participating in Teen Court, Josh overcame his shyness, gained confidence and prided himself in his knowledge of the law. He participated in Teen Court throughout his junior high and high school years even while being active in the 4H Club and a star football player for McNeil High School. In fact, his friends began to come to him for advice when they received traffic citations.

Josh accomplished all the roles of Teen Court but enjoyed the role of Prosecuting Attorney the best. He credits his Teen Court experience with giving him the confidence to speak to other individuals and to groups. He also credits Teen Court for helping him make good decisions with his life during high school when the temptations to make bad ones are so prevalent. By dealing with students who had made bad choices he realized how quickly his life could be altered by doing the same. Josh attends Texas A&M and is working toward a degree in Agriculture.