IGNITE and Running Start Launch Inaugural Young Women Run Conference in Nation’s Capital

More than 20 female elected officials scheduled to meet with the next generation of women leaders for a two-day training on political and civic empowerment

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 13, 2017) — To support the next generation of leaders, IGNITE and Running Start are teaming up to host Young Women Run, an inaugural national political leadership conference to train politically ambitious college and young professional women. The event will take place steps away from the U.S. Capitol on July 17th and 18th, at the AT&T Forum for Technology, Entertainment and Policy in Washington, D.C.

The two-day training will feature prominent elected women, including United States Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, the first Cuban American and Latina woman elected to Congress and United States House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, who will join her daughter, author and activist, Christine Pelosi, for a conversation on why the time is now for young women to step into their political power.

In addition, there will be a powerhouse lineup of expert panels, workshops, media training and plenary sessions designed to teach and advance the skills and capacities of young women who are eager to become political leaders.

More than 150 young women are signed up to attend. For a full list of panels and speakers, click here.

Young Women Run is part of IGNITE and Running Start’s goal to build a movement of young women who are ready to own their fair share of political power. Since 2007 these national nonpartisan organizations have trained nearly 20,000 young women to run for political office through college and high school programming.

“More young women than ever are becoming civically engaged and declaring their political ambition,” said Anne Moses, founder and president of IGNITE. “They need to hear that they can
and should become the next generation of political leaders. Our goal is to encourage and resource them with the tools to run for office on their campuses and within their communities."

“Young Women Run is a life changing experience for college women to get their careers off the ground and to learn skills they need to run for public office. With an earlier start in politics, women will climb higher on the leadership ladder, allowing more women to share in the decision making power of this country. I am so excited to see these women run and win in the future,” said Susannah Wellford, founder and president of Running Start.

Join the conversation by following #YoungWomenRun. The media partner for the event, The Representation Project, will make it possible for young women around the country to livestream portions of the event via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: @IGNITEnational, @runningstart and @therepproject.

Sponsors include AT&T, Google, Amalgamated Bank, Wells Fargo, Facebook, LinkedIn, Republican Main Street Partnership, Solidarity Strategies.

About IGNITE
IGNITE is building a national movement of young women who are ready and eager to become the next generation of political leaders. As a nonpartisan 501c3, IGNITE builds political ambition in high school and college-aged young women in their own communities. IGNITE provides civic education, exposure to women in political leadership, hands on training, work opportunities, and a peer network of women who support and nurture each other’s aspirations for civic and political leadership. www.ignitenational.org

About Running Start
Running Start is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization training and inspiring young women to run for political office. Through hands on programs, Running Start provides young women the skills and confidence they need to see themselves as leaders so that they can run and win. Running Start is building the next generation of women political leaders and has trained more than 12,500 young women since 2007. www.runningstartonline.org

About The Representation Project
Using film and media as catalysts for cultural transformation, The Representation Project inspires individuals and communities to challenge and overcome limiting stereotypes so that everyone – regardless of gender, race, class, age, religion, sexual orientation, ability, or circumstance – can fulfill their human potential.

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