



November 10

ENTRY CARD DEADLINE

Submit your #StepItUpNYC challenge video!
Show us your skills and tell us why your
team will step it up for LGBTQ rights!

December 14 + 15

AUDITIONS

Perform your routine (up to three minutes!)
for a panel of judges, and choose your
community service project.

Freestyle + earn points in the battle zone!



At home:

1. Improve your performance.
2. Do your community service + measure your impact.
3. Tell others about your work! Share your project online.

January 26

SEMIFINALS

Perform in front of family + friends!
Tell the judges about your community
service project, and how you'll continue
to step it up for LGBTQ rights.

All teams are invited back to the Wildcard Battle on February 9.
The winning team will get a spot in the top 10!

The top 10 teams will:

- Develop citywide social campaigns.
- Film a Step It Up NYC video.
- Get support from an all-star mentor.
- Compete for the championship and cash prizes!

June 2018

FINALS



Department of
Youth & Community
Development

#STEPITUPNYC



Step It Up NYC Performance Scorecard

Judges will use the categories below to score each team using a 10-point scale (10 = highest value, 1 = lowest value). Each team can receive a maximum of 60 points.

CATEGORY	DEFINITION	SCORE
Cause Integration	Ability to show connection to the cause (Step It Up for LGBTQ Rights) in the choreography through storytelling.	
Fluidity	Use of musicality, movement, timing, and cues to deliver a cohesive performance piece.	
Technique	Clean movement and execution, precise timing, movement vocabulary, lines, and extensions.	
Difficulty	Range of complex movement, formations, clean transitions, and use of levels.	
Creativity	Ability to use unique choreography, props, costumes, use of floor, and placement control.	
Showmanship	Overall piece and use of eye contact, crowd appeal, and performance connectivity.	
Total (up to 60 points)		



Step It Up NYC Campaign Scorecard

Judges will use the categories below to score each team using a 10-point scale (10 = highest value, 1 = lowest value). Each team can receive a maximum of 40 points.

CATEGORY	DEFINITION	SCORE
Community Map	The team has mapped their community assets (<i>what we see</i>) and team skills (<i>what we have</i>), and has spoken with their peers and community members (<i>what we hear</i>) about LGBTQ rights in their community. The team has also done additional research on the issue to learn more.	
Team Mission	The team has written a strong mission statement on how they will step it up for LGBTQ rights, based on what they learned through their community mapping. The team may have chosen a specific topic or cause to concentrate on, and has started to think about how they can make a positive impact in their community.	
Youth Leadership	The team shows that they are actively engaged in the work, and that they have made the key decisions in the planning process. They are confident, informed, and are working together to find creative solutions to any challenges they face.	
Reach	The team is spreading the word about their mission in their community and online. The team can also expand their reach by involving others from their schools, afterschool programs, or community centers in the project.	
Total (up to 40 points)		



DYCD Presents Step It Up NYC 2019

Step It Up NYC provides young dancers and steppers the opportunity to leverage their on-stage talents to create social change in their communities. Over 1,000 young performers participate in the citywide dance and step for a cause competition. Throughout the course of the school year, teams will compete in qualifying rounds with both stage performances and community service activities. The top 10 teams will be chosen to move forward and perform at the final showcase. **All program staff, coaches, and parents should review the following information with their teams to ensure that all members can commit to the full scope of the competition.**

Competition Format

- Participants must be at least 10 years old by and may not turn 21 before June 30, 2019.
- Each team must be prepared to complete all of the stages of competition, in the event that the team advances. The competition stages include:
 - #StepItUpNYC Challenge Video Submission
 - Team Auditions
 - Semifinals
 - Wildcard Battle Round*
 - Top 10 Final Showcase
- * *The battle round is for teams that were previously eliminated and wish to compete for one more chance to participate in the final showcase.*
- Each team is also required to participate in community service activities. The community service activities include but are not limited to:
 - Selecting a social cause under the umbrella of “Step It Up for LGBTQ Rights”
 - Completing community service projects
 - Developing a social campaign
- The teams that advance to the Top 10 Final Showcase are required to participate in all finalist activities, including:
 - Attending the Top 10 Orientation Day
 - Planning and completing your social campaign (and submitting your portfolio!)
 - Filming the Step It Up for LGBTQ Rights video
 - Working with a professional mentor on choreography and final performance
 - Joining the group ensemble
 - Attending the dress rehearsal
 - Competing at the Final Showcase



Competition Rules

- Each team may have up to 15 members. Each member must provide proof of age. Roster changes must be approved by DYCD.
- All teams must report in a timely fashion to all meetings, rehearsals, community service days, performance mentoring, and any other engagements required for the competition. Teams must inform DYCD representative no less than 24 hours prior to a meeting of any changes. Failure to do so may jeopardize the team's ability to move forward in the competition.
- Social campaigns must be developed with team safety in mind. No team may participate in activities that place team members in an unsafe environment. Program staff members are responsible to assure that teams receive adequate support from their community-based organization for all social campaign activities.
- The top 10 teams must be affiliated with a DYCD-funded program. Teams can work with DYCD staff in order to be connected with their local DYCD-funded program if needed.

Performance Rules

- Performances should infuse the team's cause at every stage of the competition.
- #StepItUpNYC challenge video may not exceed 60 seconds, showing the team's best moves and why they step it up for LGBTQ rights.
- Audition and semifinal pieces may not exceed three minutes in length from start to finish.
- Final showcase performance may not exceed four minutes in length from start to finish.
- Performances may not include more than 30 seconds of non-moving speaking time.
Voiceovers are not allowed.
- All performances must be free from:
 - Explicit movements and lyrics
 - Profanity
 - Revealing or transparent clothing
 - Any and all offensive choreography and song selection
- Music, costumes, and props must be approved by DYCD.
 - Props must be handheld and set up/broken down by team members onstage in less than one minute.
 - No glitter, fire, smoke, powder, or any other materials that may cause safety or performance issues for other teams will be permitted.
 - Music will be reviewed for quality and show order.



Step It Up NYC 2019 Roster

Team Name:

Performance Genre:

#StepItUpNYC Challenge Link:

If Affiliated, DYCD Program Name:

	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Grade (if applicable)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Coach Information

Head Coach Name:

Assistant Coach Name:

Head Coach Number:

Assistant Coach Number:

Head Coach Email:

Assistant Coach Email:

Program Director Name:

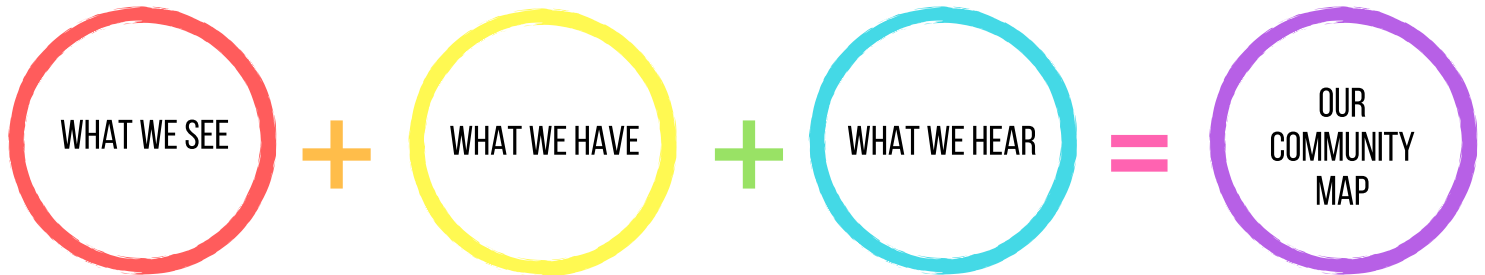
Program Director Number:

Program Director Email:



STEP 1: MAP YOUR COMMUNITY

Take a look around. Talk to your friends, families, teachers, neighbors. Before you begin thinking about your team's mission and what actions you'll take through the Step It Up NYC campaign, make time to learn about your community and draw a map that will help you create a plan to make a positive impact.



Walk around your school, center, and neighborhood. What assets can you find (buildings, businesses, public spaces, organizations, individuals) that can help you step it up for LGBTQ rights? What issues do you see related to this campaign in your community?

List the talents of each of your team members. Which can you use to make a positive impact?

Have conversations about LGBTQ rights with those around you. Interview your peers and adults in your community. Ask questions on social media. Learn from others, and then discuss your reactions as a group!

List all of your findings. Create a drawing—large or small—that maps out all of the things you found and learned. Let this guide your next steps!

HINT

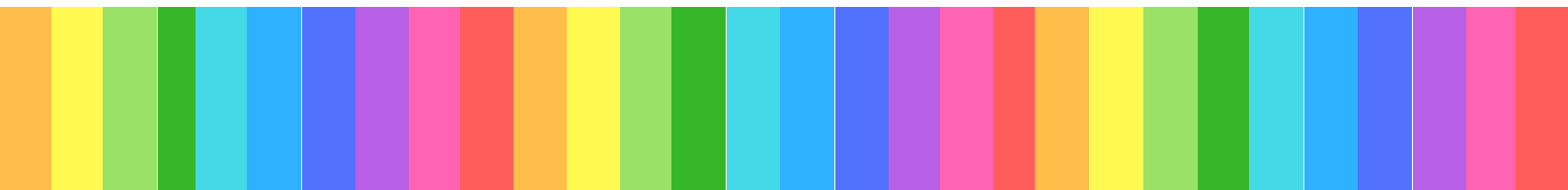
You don't have to do it all alone! Check out resources like WE Schools, DoSomething.org, the NYC Unity Project, and more. Involve others from your school, afterschool program, or community center—you don't have to have onstage talent to make an offstage impact!

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR COMMUNITY MAP TO THE FIRST AUDITIONS ON DECEMBER 14+ 15 TO SHOW THE JUDGES!

NEXT STEPS: CHOOSE YOUR TEAM'S MISSION



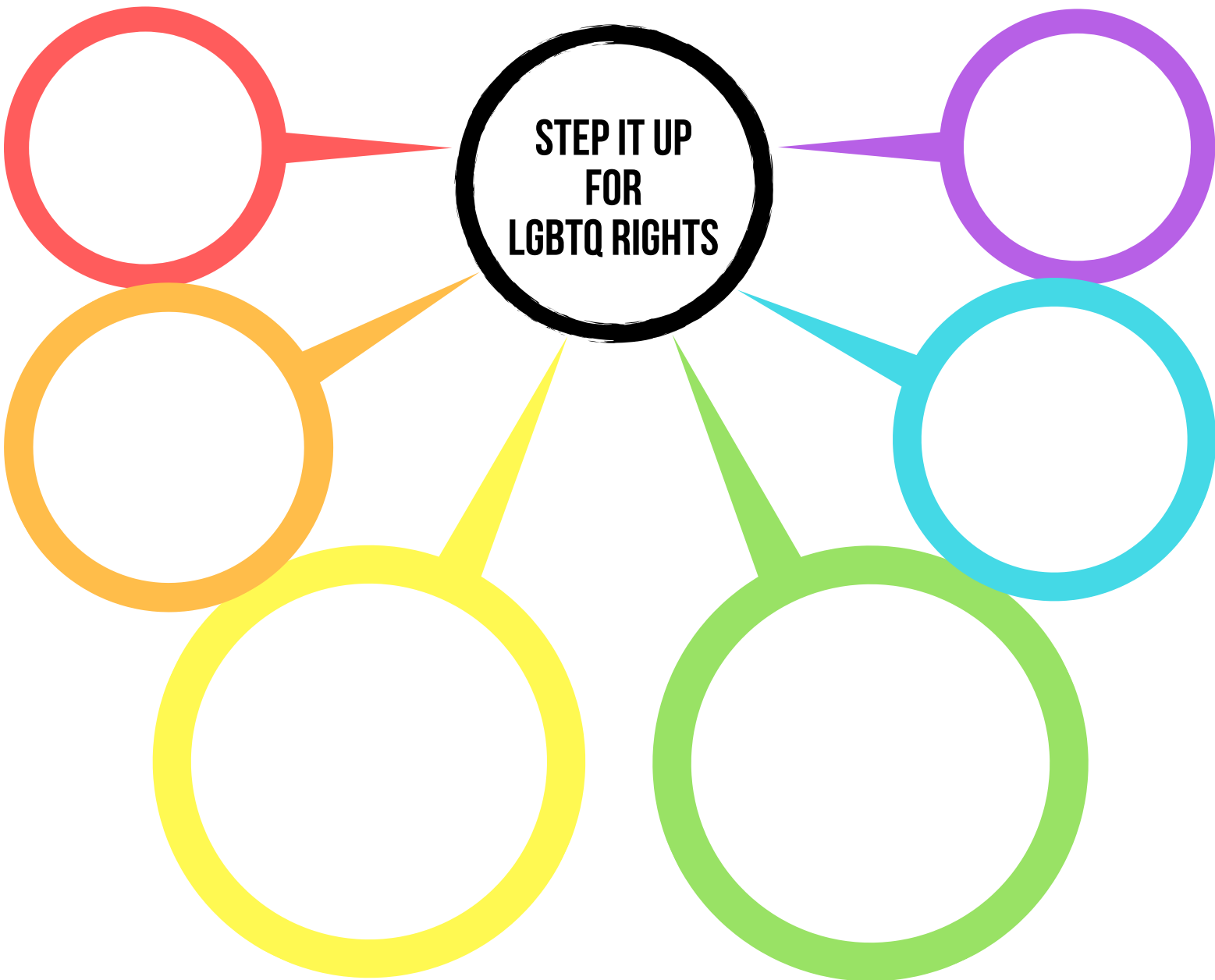
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STEP 2: CHOOSE YOUR MISSION

Use this worksheet to brainstorm a team mission. Think about why this campaign is important, what you know about the issue, how it affects your community, and how your team can create change. Use your community map, and do your own research online. This will be your mission throughout the competition.



OUR MISSION

NEXT STEPS: SHARE YOUR COMMUNITY MAP AND TEAM MISSION AT AUDITIONS



Need more room? Use this space.

