

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Q4 2022

Brought to you by  YOUNG AMERICANS
for LIBERTY.

THE PARENT REVOLUTION

Parents around the country are demanding more school choice.

PAGE 22

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

YAL achieved its four-year goal of 250 liberty legislators.

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A Closer Look: *Revolution 2022*

With nearly 1,000 attendees, our best speaker lineup ever, and resounding energy throughout the event, *Revolution 2022* was a tremendous success.

READ MORE INSIDE

Letter from the CEO

What a year it has been here at Young Americans for Liberty!

We accomplished our four-year goal of building a coalition of 250 state legislators!

In fact, we nearly doubled the size of our coalition this year and now have more than 300 state legislators in our coalition!

Many people think the end goal in politics is electing candidates to office. However, we at YAL believe that is the wrong goal. **We believe the ultimate goal is making many millions of people more free every year.**

How does one do that? By passing meaningful, pro-liberty legislation.

And that is why we have built this large coalition of state legislators.

Last year, through our coalition, we passed legislation to make 88 million Americans more free!

This year, **we built on that success and made 91 million Americans more free!**

This includes legislation on a whole slew of important topics from school choice expansions to Second Amendment protections to criminal justice reform, and a lot more.

One of my favorite bills we passed this year is Arizona HB 2449, which prevents Arizona from prohibiting clergy from visiting hospitals during times of declared emergency, such as Covid.

Five or ten years ago, we would never have imagined that in the United States patients who are seriously ill or dying in a hospital might be denied access to clergy. But Covid proved many things to us, including the government's willingness and ability to do unconscionable things such as this.

I am so proud and thankful that we at YAL have this group of dedicated, pro-liberty legislators who we can work with to pass laws like this and protect Americans' most important rights and liberties.

Next year, we aim to make 100 million Americans more free in 25 states.

We will keep you posted along the way. Thank you for your support of YAL, and for our programs that make incredible results like this possible. Together, we are fighting back against the worst kinds of government overreach – and we are winning!



Lauren

Lauren Daugherty
CEO, Young Americans for Liberty

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The American Revolution

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Below: Students at Regent University recruit for their chapter. **Right:** Students at Black Hills State University in South Dakota hold an event to bring awareness to alcohol prohibition.



YAL Heads Back to School to Fight for Liberty

Young Americans For Liberty's Student Rights Campaign takes aim at more than 45 new policy changes this fall.

BY JP KIRBY AND DANIEL GONZALEZ-ALLENDE-BARR

Young Americans for Liberty is working hard to make even more students free on campus. With 100 Fight for Free Speech victories and successful Student Rights Campaigns under our belt, we've successfully defended the rights of over 1.7 million students nationwide each year, with even more on the way. With the Student Rights Campaign entering its second year of operation, **YAL has activists on 45 different campuses trained and ready to take action against campus tyranny.**

These policies range from bans on student self-defense, to usurpation of medical freedom, to age-old prohibitions

on alcohol that have been shown to be ineffective and even dangerous. Several campaigns enter their second year of pressure while others feature new chapters itching to begin building a movement on campus to make change. In either case, YAL's commitment to identifying and training activists during the summer and at *Revolution 2022* is about to yield results for tens of thousands of students.

In South Dakota, one of YAL's most effective campus chapters is leading the charge for student self-defense. The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology chapter enters year two of its fight to bring Campus Carry to their Rapid City campus. Led by chapter president and YAL state chair Liam Slavin, the chapter has already collected petition signatures from nearly 20% of the school's student body. The chapter has shown its ability to mobilize its supporters by hosting rallies and organizing phone banks. **This commitment to action is turning a student body of passively interested students into effective liberty activists determined to restore their rights on campus.**

On top of grassroots pressure, the YAL chapter erected a billboard across the street from campus featuring the face and contact info of President Jim Rankin — the college administrator responsible for the defensive weapons ban. The billboard urges community members to contact Rankin's office and demand student rights be protected on campus. With their current momentum and a large incoming freshman class, the SD Mines YAL chapter is looking forward to bringing home the victory before the end of the Fall 2022 semester.

In the Northeast region, another committed YAL chapter is fighting for self-defense at the State University of New York at Oneonta. Chapter president Alec Woodruff has been fighting for the safety of his fellow students on campus who are banned from carrying pepper spray, leaving them defenseless. Alec started his campaign on February 24, 2022, gathering support from the student body via a petition drive.

Alec delivered the petitions to the college council on campus, but they did nothing. This did not stop Alec and his activists as they continued to gather support and pressure the administration. This consistent activism led to Alec getting YAL's model policy up for a vote by the college council on September 20th, 2022. By a unanimous vote, Alec and his YAL chapter won a resounding victory for liberty at SUNY Oneonta! **This victory restored the rights of over 6,000 students at their university.**

Self-defense is a huge issue for students on campus, and other YAL chapters across the country are standing up for their rights and winning. Students at Florida State University have taken back to their right to defend themselves, winning their almost two-year fight this fall. This victory restored the right to self-defense to over 43,000 students at the university. Additionally, the University of Louisville has entered the second year of its battle against pepper spray bans, while new fights are being launched at Boston University, the University of Hartford, and others. YAL's top-notch chapter at University of Maine is one of several chapters taking aim at the school's ban on tasers — a device shown to be 90% effective, even more than pepper spray.

The right to decide what tool to defend oneself with is not the only right American students are often denied on college campuses. Even two years after the initial Covid lockdowns of 2020, schools continue to view the right of students to decide what goes into their bodies as secondary to their own political whims. Until our policy change victory this past October, students at Colorado School of Mines were still being told by their school that they must take the Covid vaccine, despite the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) itself now saying there is no recommended difference in the treatment of vaccinated and unvaccinated students. Recognizing that there is nothing more permanent than a temporary government program, students there gathered support from their classmates and have now cleared the way for future students who would otherwise still be subjected to the mandate.

On the East Coast, YAL activist Chloë Knopf has been prevented from entering the Speech Therapy program at Southern Connecticut State University unless she submits to the vaccine — despite the fact that no undergraduate programs at the school still require vaccination. Chloë has spent the last five months preparing for her fight against the school bureaucracy and is now ready to take her knowledge onto campus.

YAL's chapters at Roanoke College and the University of Notre Dame are preparing to fight for freedom at their respective private schools. As they have done since day one, YAL students are standing up against the medical tyranny of campus bureaucrats.

Colleges all over the U.S. have denied the rights of students repeatedly, leaving them in dangerous circumstances that could have easily been avoided. This is the case with alcohol prohibitions. Banning alcohol in dormitories (a safe, controlled environment) causes students to drink at bars, clubs, and other places rather than the safety of their own rooms. The decision of where a student of age consumes alcohol should be up to them and is a right they possess the minute they leave the college campus. The Southeastern Missouri State (SEMO) chapter felt the effect of this ban in their day-to-day lives on campus. Missouri state chair Cassidy Klein and the SEMO chapter started their fight against the prohibition on April 7th,

2022. Cassidy and the SEMO chapter held dry bar events to raise awareness of this issue, bringing in support from hundreds of students who were outraged by the school's willingness to attempt to control the lives of its students.

From self-defense, to vaccine mandates, to ending prohibition, YAL's Student Rights Campaign continues to produce effective and relentless liberty activists. Many students enter college excited to learn how to make a difference.

With the help of YAL and the Student Rights Campaign, students willing to learn how to truly win back their freedoms are given the tools to keep the torch of liberty bright on their campuses. The policies that will be changed on campus this year are not only valuable victories, but are the byproducts of students now equipped to fight tyranny everywhere, for the rest of their lives. ✈️

JP Kirby is the Director of Student Rights at YAL. JP has worked in the liberty movement continuously since starting a Students for Rand Paul chapter at his alma mater in 2016. JP works full-time at YAL in Austin to ensure students have the full scope of their rights on college campuses.

Daniel Gonzalez-Allende-Barr is the Student Rights Strategist at YAL. Daniel started his journey in the liberty movement in 2020 working for Make Liberty Win PAC in the New Hampshire primaries. Since then he has moved to working full-time at YAL, researching bad policies on college campuses and defending the rights of students nationwide.



Curt Nisly: A Profile in Courage

Remarks by YAL CEO Lauren Daugherty
and Curt Nisly at Rev22.

BY LAUREN DAUGHERTY

Curt Nisly accepts the Unsung Hero Award at Revolution 2022.



“We are so proud to be able to shine some sunshine on Curt Nisly today, celebrate with him, and recognize him for his courage and perseverance with this year’s Unsung Hero Award.”

Representative Curt Nisly, a member of the Indiana House, was presented the Unsung Hero Award at Revolution 2022. Curt stood firmly by his principles during his tenure, pushing back on the establishment and never folding under pressure. Though he lost his 2022 primary campaign, being vastly outspent by the establishment, Curt fought the good fight, sacrificing his political future for liberty. His valiant work in the legislature was recognized at our annual conference, and he remains a torchbearer of liberty for future generations. Below you will find remarks by our CEO Lauren Daugherty, as well as Curt’s gracious acceptance of the award.

“On Thursday, in my opening comments, I told you all about the story of Constitutional Carry in Indiana. And as I prepare to give this year’s Unsung Hero of the Year Award, I want to share that story with you once again.

A few weeks ago, a brave young man, practicing Constitutional Carry, stopped a mass shooter in a mall in Indiana. And he saved countless lives.

But Constitutional Carry had only just recently become law in Indiana. It did so because of lots of grassroots work and dedication from two organizations, Young Americans for Liberty and the National Association of Gun Rights, and, of course, a courageous persistent legislator named Curt Nisly.

Curt took office in 2014, and year after year, after year... he fought for Constitutional Carry, but could never get it out of committee. **Curt became involved with YAL in 2019, and the support of the YAL community was able to put wind under his wings as he fought this uphill battle.**

In 2020, our sister PAC elected a couple more dedicated, pro-liberty state reps in Indiana, and then this year, YAL deployed significant grassroots support for this bill. In 2022, YAL students knocked over 13,000 doors in Indiana to pass Constitutional Carry.

And it paid off! Constitutional Carry passed and became law shortly before the Greenwood Park mall shooting. Elijah Dickens was practicing constitutional

carry that day and took out the shooter in seconds, saving countless lives.

Here at YAL, we are very proud to be part of passing critical legislation like this every year, and on a huge scale. Our legislators are absolutely essential in this line of work and sometimes face significant opposition as they do so. Sometimes these are multi-year battles; battles that take great perseverance and courage to win.

Curt Nisly championed this bill because he knew the importance of the Second Amendment, and that people have a fundamental right to defend themselves and others. His perseverance and courage paid off when this bill passed and Elijah saved those many lives.

So much of the good work that we do in life will never be known and recognized, and that is okay... we do this work because we care, and because it makes a difference.

We are so proud to be able to shine some sunshine on Curt Nisly today, celebrate with him, and recognize him for his courage and perseverance with this year’s Unsung Hero Award.”

Curt Nisly’s Remarks:

“Thank you, Lauren. Thank you, Young Americans for Liberty. **It’s amazing what you can accomplish if you don’t care who gets the credit.** But I’m going to give you the credit today. Young Americans for Liberty, what you did, on so many different levels, is why we have Constitutional Carry in Indiana, from the door-knocking with Make Liberty Win in the election season, and the door-knocking with Hazlitt Action in the legislative season, those are the things that pushed Constitutional Carry across the line in Indiana. Are you all familiar with the model of confrontational politics?”

Applause and cheers from the crowd.

There we go! Proof it works! It works on controversial issues, it’s the only thing that works on those issues, and you’ve mastered it. So congratulations and thank you for your help there. The confrontational model does require a few people on the inside, but it requires lots of people on the outside generating



Team of YAL-recruited election coordinators.

that pressure to get the politicians to do the right thing.

I’m going to tell you a story. In 2019, the majority floor leader, in the Indiana House of Representatives, the majority floor leader told me to my face he does not support Constitutional Carry, and he would not vote for Constitutional Carry. That was 2019. In 2020 he got a primary challenge by someone backed by Make Liberty Win.

Constitutional Carry was a big part of that campaign. Now the majority floor leader ended up winning that primary pretty handily. But by 2021 he was the top co-author of the Constitutional Carry bill. And in 2022, this year, once again, he was in that top co-author place, and we got Constitutional Carry passed. Yes indeed! **The confrontational model of politics works.**

I’m going to tell you one more reason why YAL is important to me. In 2019, I came to the YAL convention in Memphis. Were any of you there, or are y’all too young for that? I just learned about YAL and what they were doing. I had just offered the amendment for Constitutional Carry, trying to get that roll call vote for the second time that year, and it failed.

Couldn’t even get the vote, couldn’t get a second. And by June of 2019, I was ready to quit. In fact, I had spent a few weeks thinking I was not going to run for reelection. And I got to Memphis, checked into the hotel, called my wife, (Mary is sitting over here) and she said, “What’s going on Curt? Your voice is different.” And I said, “I feel at home here.” And that was the weekend that I decided I was going to put my name on the ballot again and run one more time in 2020.

Crowd chants “Curt! Curt! Curt!”

Thank you. So as many of you know in the primary this year, I did not make it through the primary. And I know that a lot of you were very involved with door-knocking and other things in that one. And it was a shock to me that night when we got the results. But it didn’t take me long to flip that switch and say you know what I’m free now. There’s a world of opportunities out there and I’m looking forward to whatever’s next.” ✨



JP Kirby

FEATURED SPOTLIGHT

Title

Director of Student Rights

Previous Positions at YAL

*University of the Cumberlands
(KY) – YAL Chapter President*

Kentucky State Chair

*OWD Election Coordinator/
Election Director*

Coastal Region Field Coordinator

Director of Free Speech

Education

University of the Cumberlands

Favorite Political Philosopher

Frédéric Bastiat

Why do you like working at YAL?

Young Americans for Liberty is the only youth activism group I see in the country that is not only committed to the principles of liberty, but also to the methods and activism which truly bring change. The people I get to work with every day are here to make things happen, not just argue over who has the right opinion.

What are some recent projects that you've been working on?

Recently, I've been working to make sure the activists working on our Student Rights Campaign are equipped to build real movements on college campuses. One of my favorite recent projects has been helping the South Dakota School of Mines chapter fight for Campus Carry by setting up a billboard calling out their college president for blocking student rights.

What are you most proud of this year?

This year, we were finally able to strike a real blow against Covid tyranny by repealing the mask mandate at Montana State University and the vaccine mandate at Sacred Heart University. Being able to celebrate these victories with the activists that worked so hard on them at Revolution 2022 was one of the most rewarding professional experiences of my life.

WHY RON PAUL IS

the most important libertarian

OF OUR TIME

While politics and politicians have changed over the years, **Paul never has.**

BY JACK HUNTER

Ron Paul speaks to the crowd of students at *Revolution 2022*.



I have had the honor of introducing Ron Paul many times over the years, particularly during his 2012 presidential campaign. I had that honor once again at *Revolution 2022* in Orlando in August.

But this time, it hit me differently.



Jack Hunter introducing Ron Paul at *Revolution 2022*.



Ron Paul receives a warm welcome at *Rev22*.

From the very beginning of the Ron Paul rEVOLution, which exploded after his famous spat with Rudy Giuliani over the CIA term “blowback” on a presidential debate stage on May 15, 2007, Dr. Paul always represented something new in American politics: A Republican who was more conservative than most, yet somehow was still better than most progressives on their core issues, a feat he achieved by consistently sticking to libertarian principles.

As if there were ever a chance Ron Paul would have done it any differently.

As Dr. Paul checked off issue after issue in his Orlando speech — our interventionist foreign policy, the mindless drug war, protecting free speech and free expression, ending the Fed, standing up for the Second Amendment — it was a salient reminder that in 2022 the Paulian libertarian positions on these subjects still cut through as the correct ones.

Then and now.

When Paul spoke out against the Iraq War throughout his 2008 and 2012 campaigns, he was denouncing the George W. Bush and Barack Obama administrations. This often meant arguing with hawks within his own party. Today, Dr. Paul’s criticism of the U.S. role in fueling the Russia-Ukraine conflict is directed at the Biden administration and Democrats, who today are often more hawkish than conservative Republicans who would rather put “America First.”

The environment and party dynamics have changed. Paul and his message remain the same.

When Paul railed against the war on drugs in the past, his opponents would try to label him as crazy or irresponsible, focusing on his desire to legalize marijuana, for instance. Today, many states have legalized cannabis and even more voters in all parties are open to legalization than ever before.

Not changing his position a bit, in retrospect that “crazy” Ron Paul looked right all along.

On free expression and a free press, when Obama’s Attorney General Eric Holder wanted Wikileaks’ Julian Assange charged with a crime in 2010, Paul was one of the first and few in Washington to defend him. In 2019, Paul called a possible Assange extradition from the U.K. to the U.S., “An attack on all of us. It is an attack on the U.S. Constitution. It is an attack on the free press. It is an attack on our right to know what our government is doing with our money in our name.” Today, as a reportedly ailing Assange is under threat from the U.S. government more than ever, Paul remains in his corner.

The U.S. government’s position still hasn’t changed. Neither has Ron Paul.

On the Federal Reserve, who, exactly, had been warning for years that printing more money would lead to runaway inflation? The Biden administration now scrambles to explain rising prices away in some other way. Americans aren’t buying it.

On the Fed and the danger it posed, Paul was prescient.

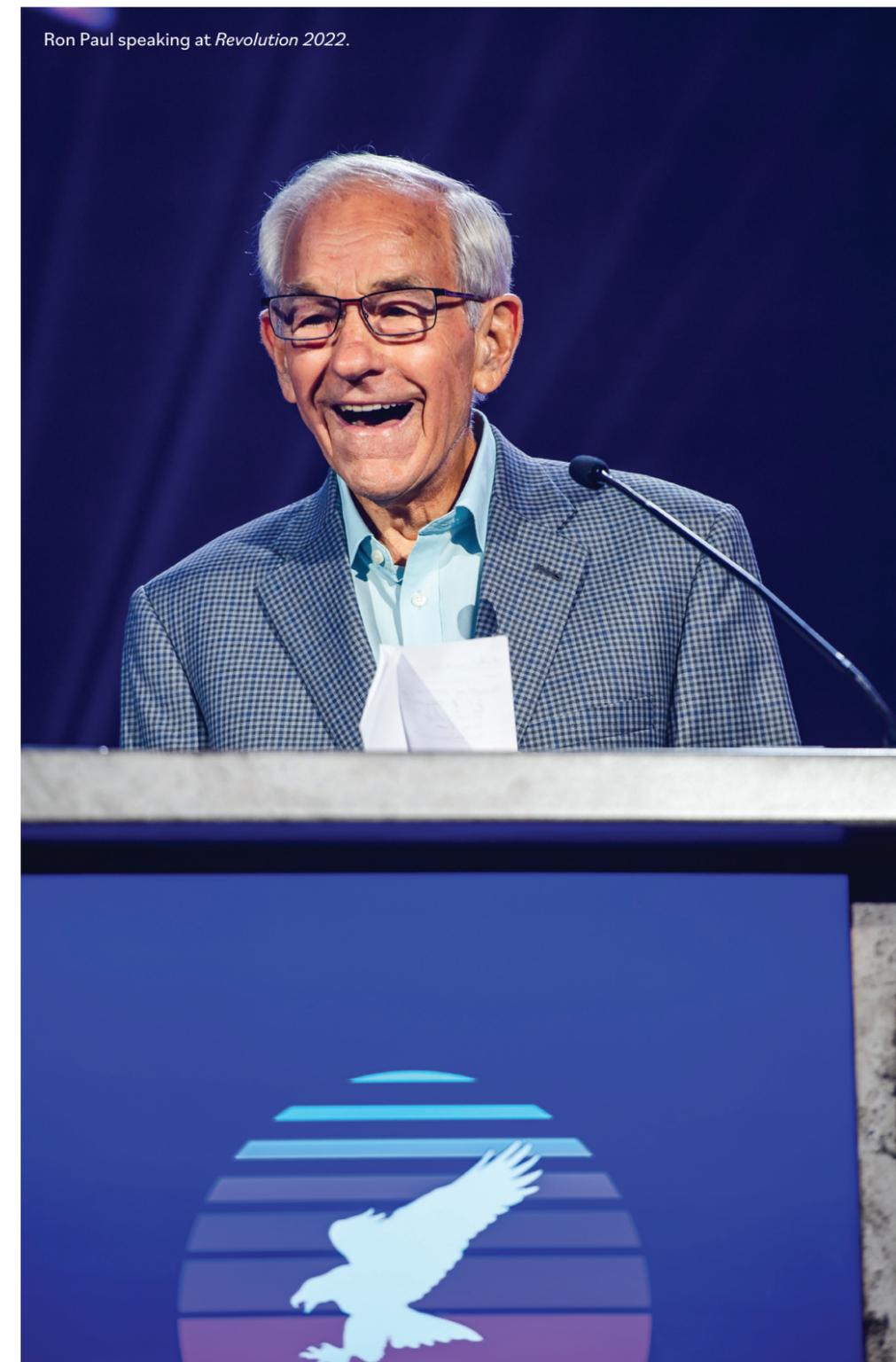
When it comes to libertarianism, there is not a name more well known by most people than Ron Paul. His popularity combined with his unshakeable convictions have helped spread the message of liberty further and wider than ever before, with Young Americans for Liberty continuing to provide an army of foot soldiers in that effort.

Dr. Paul said many things at *Revolution 2022*, some of which I have covered. But I couldn’t help but notice that while times change, he never has.

Ultimately, that night was a celebration of why we were all really there — for liberty.

And we were there for freedom’s unwavering champion, Ron Paul. ✈

Jack Hunter is the editor of Liberty Tree and a co-founder of BASED Politics.



Ron Paul speaking at *Revolution 2022*.

**REVOLUTION
2022
WAS A HUGE
SUCCESS!**

BY DAN TAYLOR

Revolution 2022 was a tremendous success with nearly 1,000 attendees, our best speaker lineup ever, and resounding energy throughout the event.

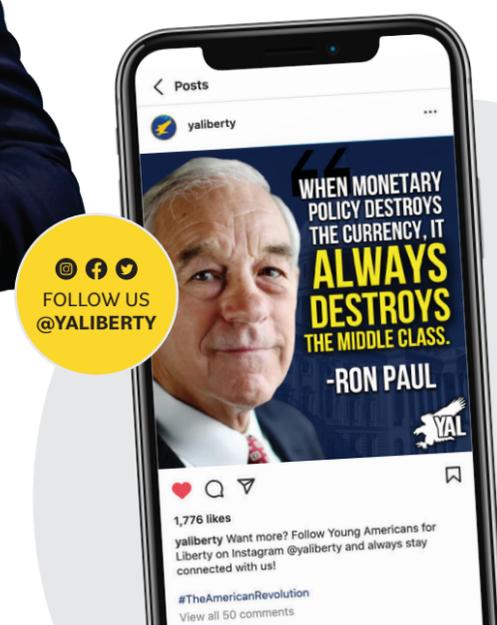
Allow me to set the scene. You are surrounded by hundreds of students, gathered around two massive double-doors leading into the main stage of the largest youth liberty event of the year. As the doors open, you walk down the aisle while neon lights in pink and purple flash as you find a seat. The excitement is unmatched, especially when “We’re Not Gonna Take It” begins to play. Chants echo of *END THE FED! END THE FED!* as Ron Paul walks on stage, and the crowd erupts. This is **Revolution 2022**.

This August, **nearly 1,000 liberty-minded student activists gathered from across all fifty states for Revolution 2022**. We took this opportunity to celebrate the success our movement has had in the past few years. In 2018, Young Americans for Liberty launched Operation Win at the Door (OWD) with the ambitious goal of building a coalition of 250 liberty-minded state legislators across the United States. On the Tuesday before **Revolution 2022** Young Americans for Liberty smashed that goal and brought our legislator coalition to 270 members.

Students heard from YAL’s Director of Student Rights, who trained them on student activism on college campuses and the Student Rights Campaign. The SRC focuses on changing tyrannical policies on campuses to free students of socialist indoctrination through grassroots mobilization.



Liam Slavin is one of five Torchbearer of Liberty award winners.



On Saturday afternoon, Patrick McGrady, mayor of Aberdeen, Maryland, trained attendees on the “Real Nature of Politics.” This is a full-scope basic training that paints a picture of the political world, which teaches our students that THEY can make a difference in their communities. “To change a politician’s votes, you must change their environment,” Mayor McGrady explained to a crowd of hundreds of focused students.

On the final evening, I had the distinct honor of giving out “Torchbearers of Liberty” awards, praising five students that showed exceptional dedication to the cause of liberty. I reminded the students that the great American Revolution started off in a room of 20 year-olds who were passionate and dedicated to the ideas of liberty and envisioned a better system of government that put the individual first. These torchbearers were invited to come on stage and be celebrated for their outstanding achievements.

Through all of this, by far the best part of this event was on Saturday night when Ron Paul took the stage. **The room chanted “End The Fed” so loudly that Dr. Paul had to pause his speech, and he could only reply, “Sounds like a good idea to me!”**

For those concerned about the future of the liberty movement, all you must do is look to the students who dedicated a weekend of their summer to get trained and mobilized to make real change in the world around them.

“I loved the structure of *Revolution 2022*, I loved how intimate it was and how educational it was; I’ve never had that type of experience from a conference before”

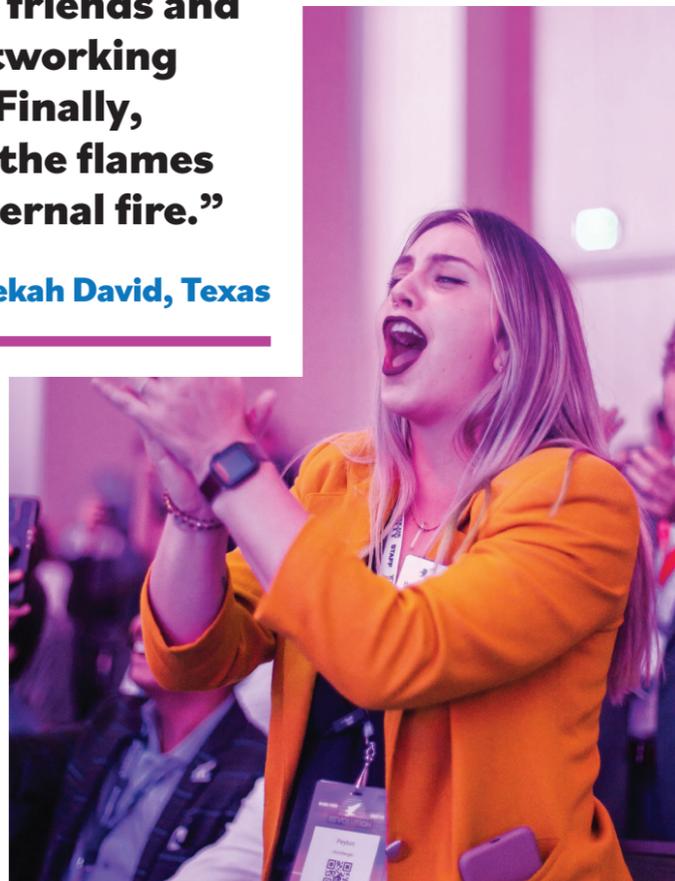
- Rachel Rocha, California





“I have been absolutely blown away by the experience of *Revolution 2022*. I have met so many incredible and fierce fellow warriors. I have made lifelong friends and incredible networking connections. Finally, I have stoked the flames of my own internal fire.”

- Rebekah David, Texas



“At *Revolution 2022*, the speakers invigorated the members of my chapter with stories of how liberty has saved lives, how the lack of liberty has cost them, and how YAL has made 91 million people more free this year alone. These are students who weren’t involved in politics a year ago, and many now have begun working in politics advancing liberty in Montana and across the country, and will become the next generation of liberty leaders.”

- Dylan Dean, Montana



The future of the liberty movement is in good hands, and the torch of liberty has been passed on to the next generation. With their training, education, and newfound energy, the movement has nowhere to go but up. ⚡

Dan Taylor is the VP of Campus at YAL and lives in Austin.



Rep. Kera Birkeland

FEATURED SPOTLIGHT

Representative Kera Birkeland represents the 53rd district of Utah. She has been a legislative champion on education freedom and drug policy. She is a member of the Hazlitt Coalition and has been a leading voice for freedom in the Utah Legislature for almost two full years.

Title

*Utah State Representative
53rd district, Hazlitt Member*

Year Elected

2020

Legislation

HB 123 - Passed - Police Use of Force Reform (primary author) (2021)

HB 60 - Passed - Constitutional Carry (co-sponsor) (2022)

Education

Some College at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah

Short Bio

Kera Birkeland was born and raised primarily in rural Montana. She also lived in upstate New York for a few years. Later in life, Kera met her husband, Lars, while attending Brigham Young University in Provo. Kera and Lars have six children and have been foster parents to many more.

Kera owned and operated a state-licensed child care center and preschool for about a decade. After that, she began working for a law firm. She has served in various positions throughout the Utah Republican Party; most recently as Vice Chair. Kera and her husband also own a food truck, which has been a great way to teach their kids about work ethic and finances.

In her spare time, Kera coaches high school basketball, and her favorite hobby is officiating high school football and basketball. Her time spent on the football field and basketball court serves as great practice for debates on the House floor. Kera strives to take a bold stance on critical issues, while also leading with kindness and fairness.

Top Issues

Freedom, lower taxes, and parents' rights.

What brought you into the liberty movement?

I was born as someone who questions authority. My upbringing as a home-schooled child, in an era where homeschooling was considered abuse (or so we were constantly told by "well-meaning" adults) only increased my desire to live without "Big Brother" constantly looking over my shoulder.

What inspired you to run for office?

It was 2020 and the whole state and nation was shutting down. Government was abusing its perceived authority and not many were willing to stand up for the people.

How do you overcome pressure from the establishment?

I'm in it for liberty, so there really isn't anything that one can pressure me with that means more to me than the people's personal liberties.

What is your advice for young activists?

Don't lose sight of the long game. Taking small wins can sometimes set us back even further than we currently are. Ask a lot of questions and go with your gut instincts.



Randan Steinhauser speaking at a school choice rally in Texas.

Building the Parent Revolution for Educational Freedom

Parents around the country are demanding more school choice.

BY RANDAN STEINHAUSER

There's a new American Revolution brewing in our country; it's a revolution fueled by parents who are reinventing the future of education in America. **Mothers and fathers across the United States are taking back control of their children's education by opting out of the government-run school system.**

Restoring parental control in education must be a top priority for every American who believes in liberty. As a homeschooling father of four, Dr. Ron Paul and his wife Carolyn recognized the need to remove government indoctrination from his own children's

education. Today, nearly five million American families have joined the movement to home educate.

I am proud to say that my husband and I are among those millions of Americans who have rejected the notion that "government knows best," and we are homeschooling our four children in partnership with a University-Model™ school, Veritas Academy, here in Austin, Texas. We recognize that no one knows our children better than we do, and we want to ensure that our values of life, liberty, and economic freedom are not crowded out by the Marxist and

socialist ideas being pushed in public schools across the country.

While homeschooling has become the fastest growing form of educational choice, the landscape of educational options has never been more diverse. From privately-run microschoools and co-ops to University-Model™ schools and innovative charter schools, **parents have more options than ever before when selecting the best educational environment for their child.**

Parents are engaging in their children's education with renewed vigor after witnessing the disastrous ways

that public schools and their union-backed special interest groups reacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. From school shutdowns and mask mandates to teacher shortages and questionable curricula, parents decided there was never a better time to take matters into their own hands. They walked away from their neighborhood government schools and began laying the foundation of the new American Revolution that we are witnessing today.

Covid-19 revealed deep and concerning institutional problems that no one policy can solve. However, it also unleashed the potential for a new marketplace of educational options that is being created from the ground up – not from a bureaucrat in Washington or under the direction of state lawmakers across the country. Parents are binding together to develop communities of learners, launch programming designed to instill a love of learning, and founding their own private schools committed to educating the whole child. These parents can be supported through universal educational savings accounts that allow parents to choose how the allocated state funds for their children are used on education.

As fighters for the ideas of liberty, we must navigate this movement with increased efforts to support educational entrepreneurs and train parents on how to make their voices heard in the legislative process. While most states currently have relatively few regulations on homeschooling, we have already witnessed a drastic increase in calls for government intervention and regulation of homeschooling families.

Further, as microschoools and private schools continue to compete with neighborhood government schools, efforts will undoubtedly be made to regulate them into oblivion. Already, we are seeing calls to force private school students to partake in mandated state testing and for microschoools to follow the same standards as government schools.

While these efforts to increase the government's role in education should cause concern, it should also be noted that with every step the government takes to get more involved in education, the more parents are fighting back and the more the parent revolution grows. The liberty movement must fuel this revolution by pushing for universal, unencumbered educational freedom. Every single family in America should have access to high-quality, customized, individual learning environments that work for their children. Regardless of the delivery model, funding should follow the child. This is possible through a universal education savings account.

The progressive Left wants nothing more than to control our children through forced participation in the failing education system. **Government-run schooling threatens the foundation of a free society by teaching children that government solves their problems and replaces the ideas of liberty with collectivism and authoritarianism.**



Randan Steinhauser with Dr. Ron Paul.

As fighters for the ideas of liberty, we must navigate this movement with increased efforts to support educational entrepreneurs and train parents on how to make their voices heard in the legislative process.

This is a big reason why YAL will follow up its previous work helping to pass school choice in Kentucky and Missouri with an even bigger push in 2023. YAL will pursue a multi-state strategy that will ensure this issue is a priority in state legislatures across the country.

Together, we must continue to build this new American Revolution for educational freedom. Our future depends on it. ✨

Randan Steinhauser is a mother of four, and lives in Austin, Texas. She is the founder of the Texas School Choice Coalition, and is a nationally-recognized leader in education reform. She has worked for former Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos at the American Federation for Children, as well as for National School Choice Week and EdChoice. In 2008, Randan led the campus efforts for Ron Paul for President at The University of South Carolina.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:

Over 250 Liberty Legislators!

On Election Day, YAL achieved its four-year goal!

BY SEAN THEMEA

In 2018, Young Americans for Liberty set out to accomplish an audacious goal: to build a nationwide coalition of 250 liberty legislators by the end of 2022.

Many folks were skeptical about whether this was possible. They said there wouldn't be enough liberty donors to fund the effort. They said there wouldn't be enough principled and viable liberty candidates and lawmakers. They said there wouldn't be enough liberty students who would commit to knocking on doors across the country.

I'm happy to report that "they" were wrong. **Election Day arrived, and Young Americans for Liberty has officially built the bench of over 250 pro-liberty state legislators.**

This couldn't have been done without the tireless work of our national staff recruiting students for this opportunity; the students who traveled across the country to knock on doors for

weeks at a time; the principled legislators and candidates who stood up for their beliefs; and of course, our supporters who empowered the entire operation.

Since Operation Win at the Door (OWD) was launched, YAL's fundraising has increased substantially, from \$2.8 million to \$15.1 million.

YAL has received over 2,500 surveys from candidates documenting their liberty bona fides.

In 2020 alone, YAL placed 1,088 young door knockers across the country — that's more contractors than any presidential campaign placed in the 2020 election cycle. Barack Obama, Joe Biden, and Bernie Sanders have all endorsed candidates that YAL-recruited door knockers stood up to and defeated.

And since OWD's founding, YAL students have knocked on **over 3.8 million doors.**

These methods of voter targeting have proven successful and have only become more refined and impactful with time. Thanks to the tireless work of YAL-recruited students, aligned voters turned out in droves on Election Day who otherwise may have stayed home.

Nationally, there wasn't the massive red tidal wave that some had predicted this year. Despite that, liberty candidates performed well at the state level because dedicated people put in the legwork to make it happen — thanks to your support.

But elections only matter if the legislators who win them pass good legislation. I am proud to share that **this year, our Hazlitt Coalition of legislators passed enough pro-liberty legislation to make 91 million Americans more free.** That means one out of every four Americans were impacted by bills like Constitutional Carry in Texas, School Choice in Missouri and Kentucky, Medical Freedom in New Hampshire and Idaho, and



Steve Rawlings takes a photo with YAL-recruited door-knockers in Kentucky.



1. Election coordinators knock doors for liberty! 2. YAL-recruited election coordinators make a real impact with real individuals on the campaign trail. 3. YAL student knocking doors for liberty in Indiana. 4. Election coordinators take *lit selfies* with aligned voters.

Civil Asset Forfeiture abolition in Maine.

We anticipate that with our expanded coalition, we'll be able to make over 100 million Americans more free in 2023.

In addition, the impact of YAL's Hazlitt Coalition has risen to the statewide and national levels. In Alabama, State Representative Andrew Sorrell won his bid to become State Auditor. This means that a man guided by the principles of liberty will serve as a check and balance on the state's treasury.

In Wyoming, State Representative Chuck Gray won his bid to become Secretary of State. This means that a man guided by the principles of liberty will serve as a

check and balance on election integrity. And in Missouri, State Representative Eric Burlison won his bid for Congress. This means that a man guided by the principles of liberty will join the likes of Rep. Thomas Massie and Sen. Rand Paul in Washington to serve as a check and balance on the Leviathan that is Washington, D.C.

In 2022, YAL-recruited students have helped secure victory for over 200 candidates. About one-third of those candidates were directly trained at a YAL Liberty Candidate Academy, two of which are former YAL student leaders, bringing our grand total of YAL alumni elected to 15. And in 2022 alone, YAL students have helped

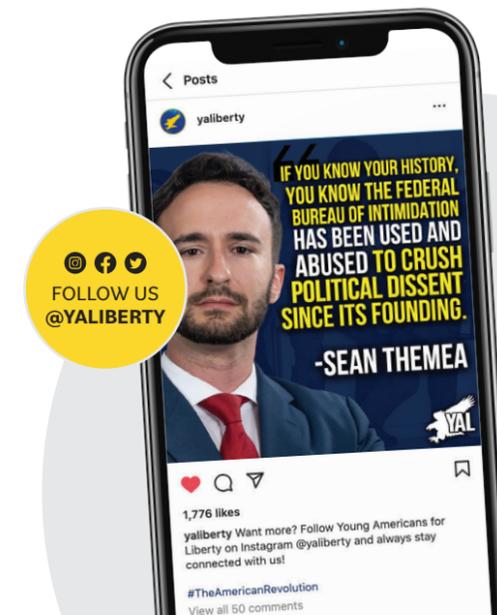
oust 40 incumbents, bringing our total of entrenched establishment legislators removed to a whopping 122.

Most importantly, our Hazlitt Coalition has nearly doubled in size. This means that even more liberty champions will be representing us in state legislatures across America. It means the principles of free markets, civil liberties, and peace gained more voices in state capitols throughout the country.

Remember, each of these victories means a new microphone for the principles that you and I care about. A new leader in the community that will stand up to tyrannical bureaucrats, mayors and governors. A new leader who will mobilize and excite their community and get the government out of their lives.

While I am proud of the success of the YAL team and Operation Win at the Door, our work is only beginning. 2023 presents a unique opportunity to seize on these electoral gains and pass legislation to make millions of Americans more free. This means that YAL legislators, after standing up to opposing candidates in their election, will now need to stand up to members of their own party who seek to water down or block their proposed liberty legislation. But make no mistake; this is a challenge that our liberty champions will relish. 🦋

Sean Themea is YAL's Chief of Staff and lives in Austin. He has been published in The Federalist, Spectator World, and has appeared on Fox Business, The Young Turks, and Vice.

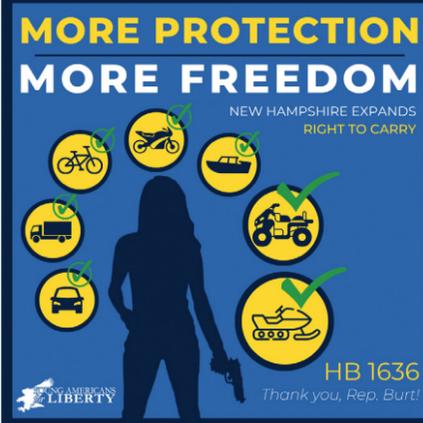


New Hampshire Emerges as a Beacon of Liberty

BY HEATHER FAZIO



New Hampshire has a long history of supporting and defending liberty - and the revolution continues!



This year, our Hazlitt Coalition in the Granite State — 61 Legislators — worked to pass a variety of bills to make 1.3 million people more free. Their dedication has brought tangible results which illuminate a path toward true liberty in our lifetime.

When our country was established, the Founders set out to change the very course of human history. A history that had — for too long — yielded to institutions of coercion and elitist oppression. The American Revolution was an extension of a larger awakening, an awakening made possible by access to education, means of communication, and a human spirit that demanded to be free.

The Founders sought to institute a government that existed to protect human rights, facilitate justice, and make way for prosperity. The American Dream, as it has come to be known, still exists in large part, but we are seeing increased abuses of power which threaten that dream as our government grows.

One of the greatest threats to our ability to live freely comes directly from the United States government itself. With countless unconstitutional executive orders, runaway congressional spending, and predatory federal agencies, we have seen sweeping violations of individual rights and state sovereignty.

Pushing back against federal overreach, New Hampshire has emerged as a beacon of liberty.

To combat the Covid tyranny we all experienced, New Hampshire passed bills to limit emergency powers (HB 187), forbid school vaccine mandates (HB 1035), ban vaccine passports (HB 1495), protect hospital visitation (HB 1439), and ensure parental consent for medical treatment in schools (HB1244).

Add to that list several bills to secure religious freedom and civil liberties, even when an emergency has been declared by the governor (HB 440). Combined, this package of legislation sends a clear message: never again!

Since 2017, New Hampshire has been a Constitutional Carry state, but due to a little-known provision, it was still illegal to carry a loaded firearm on a snowmobile. **With leadership from Rep. John Burt, the law has been corrected and the citizens of New Hampshire are now free to move about the mountains fully armed (HB 1636).**

More significantly, Rep. Burt's HB 1178 effectively rejects federal gun control, asserting that state and local law enforcement will NOT cooperate with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) or any other agencies seeking



Above: Heather Fazio speaks on ending the drug war at *Revolution 2022*. **Below:** Jessica de la Cruz, Hershel Nunez, Mark Warden, and Erica Layon speak at the Boston Grassroots Action Training hosted by Dylan Oliver.

to violate the Second Amendment. This kind of policy is an important step as the state moves to nullify federal efforts to disarm citizens.

As noted by the Tenth Amendment Center, “The federal government relies heavily on state cooperation to implement and enforce almost all of its laws, regulations and acts — including gun control. By simply withdrawing this necessary cooperation, states and localities can nullify many federal actions in effect.”

What are the real world implications of the bill? Earlier this year, the White House announced a new rule that would ban “ghost gun” build kits, which allow the creation of firearms without serial numbers. **Under HB 1178, state and local officials are forbidden from helping the feds enforce this new, unconstitutional rule.** Additionally, in New Hampshire there is no prohibition against owning a machine gun. If the ATF wants to enforce their rules prohibiting the possession of newly-manufactured machine guns, they will be responsible for doing so without assistance from state or local law enforcement.

New Hampshire is also looking inward, working to advance criminal justice reform and government accountability. They've banned profiling of motorcycle club members (HB 1000) and instituted asset

forfeiture accountability (HB 1493). Legislation passed this year requires informed consent for vehicle searches (SB 40) and funds dashboard cameras and body cameras for law enforcement (SB 401).

To protect some of the most vulnerable, New Hampshire lawmakers have restricted the administration of psychotropic medication to children in foster care (HB 120). All too often, these heavy duty medications are used as “chemical restraints,” which is the intentional use of any medication to subdue, sedate, or restrain an individual.

Also worth noting are the new laws that make adoption easier for family members (HB 293), increase homestead food freedom (HB 314), and loosen restrictive rules relating to raw milk (HB 95). Even small steps forward move us closer to a free society.

With newly-recruited allies, the size and influence of our coalition is growing, offering the opportunity to advance liberty at an even faster pace in 2023. As our fight against government overreach continues, New Hampshire stands out as a shining beacon to liberty-loving people across America. ✨

Heather Fazio is the Director of Policy with Young Americans for Liberty, began her political career as a Ron Paul activist, and resides in Austin.



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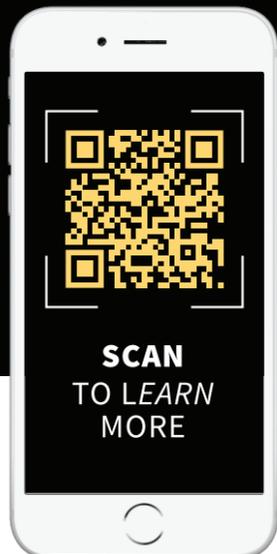
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RON PAUL



I WAS WONDERING IF THE REVOLUTION WAS STILL ALIVE AND WELL.

LOOKS LIKE THE REVOLUTION IS VERY MUCH ALIVE!



THE BEST THING THAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW IS THAT ABOUT 82% OF THE PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE WHAT THE GOVERNMENT TELLS US.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE BIG GOVERNMENT LEFT SEEMS TO CONTROL EVERYTHING.



THEY RUN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES, AND EVEN CORPORATE AMERICA.

AND THEY ARE THE ENFORCERS OF GOVERNMENT WILL.

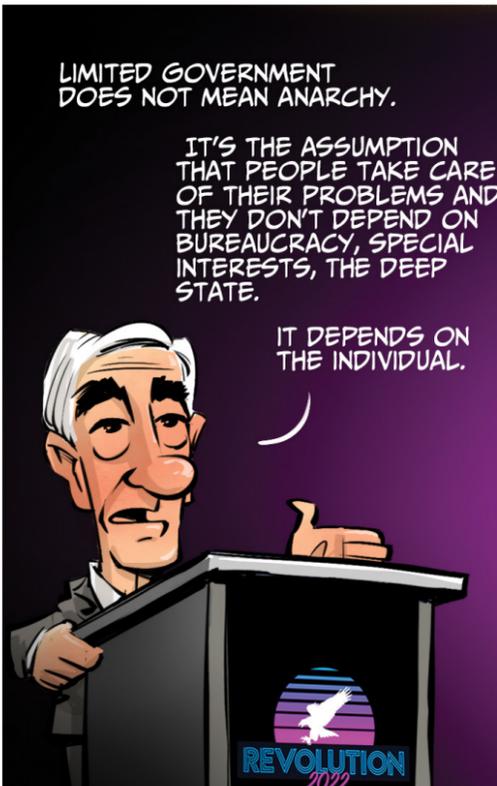
EXCEPT GOOD IDEAS CAN NOT BE STOPPED BY GOVERNMENTS.

IDEAS ARE UNSTOPPABLE.



A LOT OF PEOPLE ARGUE THE CASE, "WELL IF WE HAD IT YOUR WAY- A BUNCH OF LIBERTARIANS WHO DON'T WANT ANY GOVERNMENT- YOU'D HAVE ANARCHY."

I SAID YEAH, BUT LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE NOW. YOU HAVE ANARCHY IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND L.A. AND WASHINGTON DC AND NEW YORK. IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU HAVE A BIT OF ANARCHY IN THOSE CITIES.



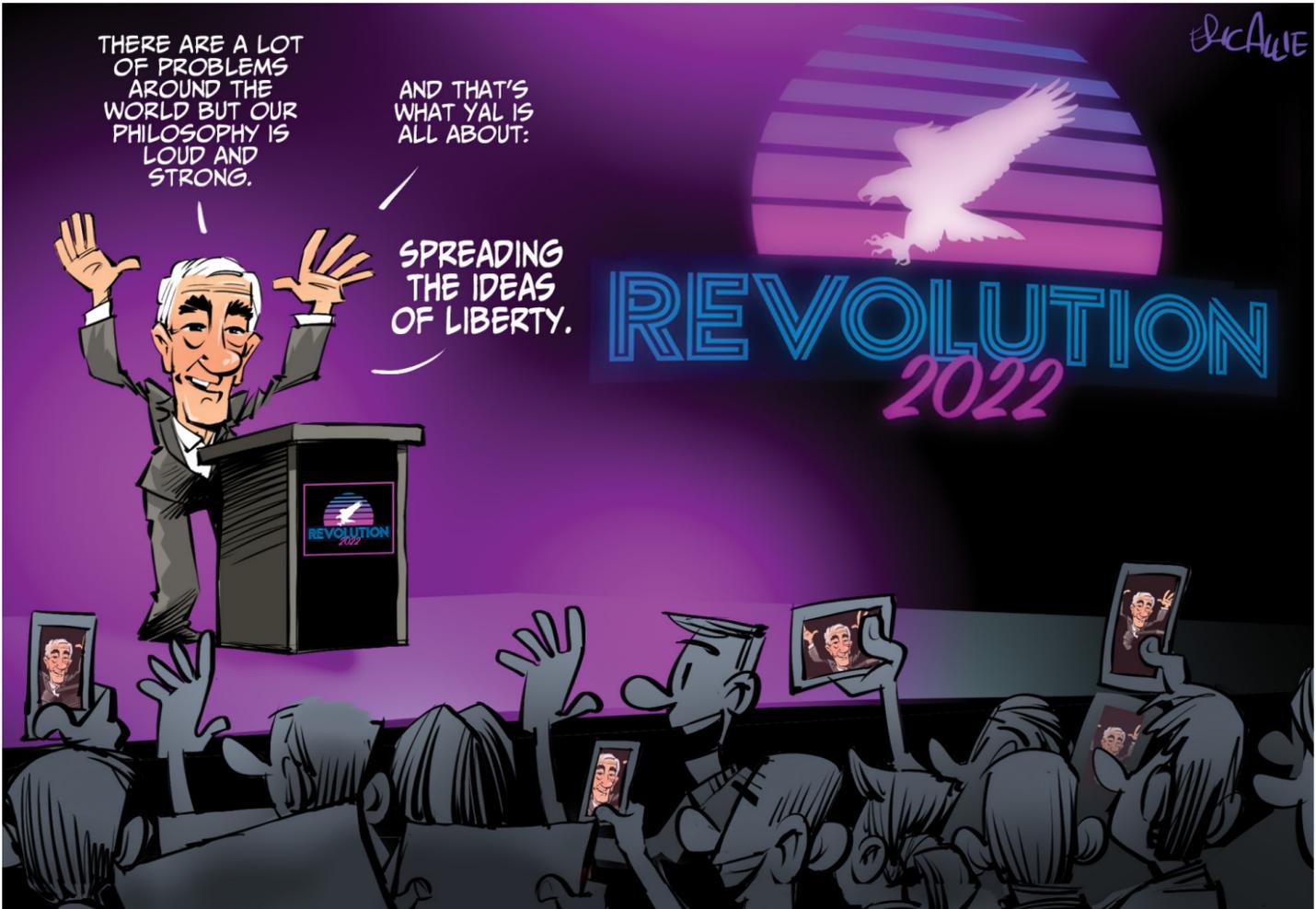
LIMITED GOVERNMENT DOES NOT MEAN ANARCHY.

IT'S THE ASSUMPTION THAT PEOPLE TAKE CARE OF THEIR PROBLEMS AND THEY DON'T DEPEND ON BUREAUCRACY, SPECIAL INTERESTS, THE DEEP STATE.

IT DEPENDS ON THE INDIVIDUAL.



THE PROBLEM IS THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE THIS TRUST AND BELIEVE THAT THE ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND IN GOVERNMENT INSTEAD OF ACCEPTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT THAT'S WHERE OUR PROBLEMS ARE COMING FROM.



THERE ARE A LOT OF PROBLEMS AROUND THE WORLD BUT OUR PHILOSOPHY IS LOUD AND STRONG.

AND THAT'S WHAT YAL IS ALL ABOUT:

SPREADING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY.

REVOLUTION 2022



Emerging Bastions of Freedom

BY TED PATTERSON

YAL's Operation Win at the Door is Creating Centers for Liberty Across America.

Our American Founders gave us federalism and the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution for a good reason. States were meant to be “laboratories of democracy” where ideas were put to the test and stood (or failed) on their own merits. Each state was supposed to be able to govern itself as it saw fit and to stand apart from the power of the federal government.

Unfortunately, over time, the states’ power has been eroded by politicians and bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. The federal government has crowded out state-delegated authority and has become a behemoth of waste, fraud, abuse, and centralization. Things need to change for the American people to preserve their liberty and their ability to govern themselves.

That is why we at Young Americans for Liberty are so interested in the idea of creating “liberty states” throughout the country. **The idea is simple, yet profound: create a handful of states where liberty thrives and where the power of government is miniscule.**

In these states, we are working with our coalition of state legislators to pass a number of meaningful laws to reduce the power of government and increase individual freedom.

Over time, this will create environments where individual rights are respected and people prosper. **We are working to create bastions of liberty where those who share our values will join us and ensure that these states remain free for our lifetimes and our children’s lifetimes.**

We are not seeking to turn New York or California into bastions of liberty. We are working within the practical realities of our political culture to focus on pro-liberty states like Missouri, Wyoming, Idaho, Oklahoma, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, New Hampshire, Alabama, and Mississippi.

We are focused on big ideas that make a tangible and measurable impact in the lives of real people. For example, we are fighting for criminal justice reform, parental choice in education, reformed drug policy, property tax reform, reducing regulations, and pro-freedom health care policies.

By working to pass pro-liberty laws in these and other policy areas, YAL can achieve the goal of creating true bastions of liberty where people can exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens of a free society. By creating these bastions, we will preserve places where those who want to live in a truly free state can vote with their feet and join us.

◀ Ted Patterson speaks at *Revolution 2022*.



Making Progress Toward Liberty Bastions

Ted talking to Laurel Libby and Andrew Sorrell during the Liberty in the Legislature panel at *Revolution 2022*.

When YAL launched the ambitious goal of organizing a coalition of 250 liberty state legislators by 2022, we had no idea just how quickly things would snowball into real momentum for pro-freedom change in America. As of this writing, YAL now has seven states with ten or more Hazlitt Coalition members.

New Hampshire is poised to boast over 100 Hazlitt legislators. Idaho and Missouri will both have teams of more than 20 legislators each working in their respective chambers. Wyoming, North Dakota, Kentucky, and Arizona could each end up with more than a dozen liberty legislators by the end of this year.

The establishment can no longer silence or ignore our liberty leaders. With a foothold of legislators in each chamber, recorded roll call votes can be forced at any time on any issue. We are even seeing Hazlitt legislators take on

The establishment can no longer silence or ignore our liberty leaders.

leadership positions within their caucuses or committee leadership positions within each chamber.

When we started we were in the regular season, but now we are in the playoffs competing to pass the most ambitious liberty policies yet at the state level.

The template for YAL's approach to date is New Hampshire. The Cato Institute's Freedom in the 50 States index of personal and economic freedom placed New Hampshire number one nationally in 2021. Without our Hazlitt members, this simply would not have happened.

Since 2018, YAL has been methodically investing in New Hampshire. New Hampshire has cut taxes, passed school choice, and reduced government spending. In 2022 alone, YAL's grassroots team there knocked a total of 25,825 doors, made 118,800 phone calls to constituents, and dropped 21,755 mailers in support of freedom.

YAL has tremendous resources and strength in terms of our legislators, staff, activists, and donors. As we focus those resources strategically, and devote overwhelming strength toward places that are ripe for pushing the Overton Window even further in the direction of liberty, we can make a huge impact through these liberty states.

This is an idea that upholds the lost principle of federalism and is worthy of our American founders. ✨

Ted Patterson is YAL's Vice President of Policy and lives in Maryland with his wife and children.



Rep. Danny McCormick

FEATURED SPOTLIGHT

Danny McCormick is a lifelong resident of Louisiana and a small business owner. He and his wife, Susan, have been married for 38 years. They have two children and six grandchildren. McCormick had several years of experience as a successful grassroots organizer prior to his political career. He has continued those efforts while serving in the state legislature by founding Operation Golden Arrow. He is a firm believer in defending our constitutional rights and is affectionately known as “the man with the backbone.”

Position

Louisiana House of Representatives, District 1

Year elected

2019

Legislation

HCR5 - Passed - Suspends criminal penalties for emergency order violations (primary author) (2021)

HB 697 - Passed - Eliminates Caddo Parish from Metro Planning Commission (primary author) (2020)

Education

High School graduate

Biggest Influences

Christ, my family, my business relationships

Fun Fact

I am a former Louisiana High School Rodeo Team-Roping Champion!

Favorite part of Hazlitt Coalition

I have gained a lot of knowledge through the coalition. As a businessman, it is important for me to have factual data to base my decisions on, and Young Americans for Liberty provides that information.

Top Issues

Property Rights, Health Freedom, Constitutional Carry, Abolishment of Abortion

What brought you into the liberty movement?

They just wouldn't leave me alone. I wanted to worship my God, love my family, and run my business without interference, but the government kept chipping away at my freedom.

What inspired you to run?

My grassroots efforts prevailed against the federal government when we successfully opposed a National Heritage Area that would have negatively affected the private property rights of landowners in both Texas and Louisiana. I didn't want the momentum to stop there. After prayerful consideration, I felt a personal duty to take things a step further to help save our constitutional republic.

How do you overcome pressure from the establishment?

I realized that to be hated inside the state capitol is to be loved outside of the capitol. I'd much rather stand with the people.

What is your advice for young activists?

Realize that it is up to YOU to preserve the greatest country that has ever been.



Kathryn Brackbill

FEATURED SPOTLIGHT

Title

VP of Operations

Previous Positions at YAL

Director of Operations

Pennsylvania State Chair

*Saint Vincent College
Chapter President*

Education

Saint Vincent College

Favorite Political Philosopher

Alexis de Tocqueville

Why do you like working at YAL?

Young Americans for Liberty is the most effective student organization in the country, and we are doing very important work here. I find it fulfilling to know that my efforts are helping grow an organization that has the ability to really change the world.

What are some recent projects that you've been working on?

Most recently I've been working behind the scenes to organize and plan Revolution 2022! Revolution was a smashing success with nearly 1,000 student activists being trained on how to make Americans more free!

What are you most proud of this year?

I am so proud to see YAL reach our goal of 250 Hazlitt Coalition legislators! When I came on staff full time in 2018, it seemed like an impossible goal. But with the help of activists, donors, and door knockers, we made it happen!

HEALTH CARE FREEDOM REQUIRES PRICING TRANSPARENCY

Health care is one-fifth of the nation's economy, but lacks certain market principles.

BY PATRICK NEVILLE

Over the summer, a couple vacationing in Greece visited a local restaurant for a bite to eat and asked for a menu with prices to see their options. Instead of providing the couple with a menu, the waiter rattled off some menu items. They followed their waiter's suggestion and ordered 12 oysters and four drinks. To their dismay, they were shocked to receive a bill for over five hundred dollars. This experience led to several international news stories and outrage directed at the restaurant. Yet, this is an everyday occurrence for the American health care consumer.

Health care is one-fifth of the American economy, but the system operates largely free from traditional economic principles. The biggest of these is the economic principle of price discovery, also known as where supply and demand meet. Our health care system fails to meet this principle because of a lack of price transparency.

We must remember that consumers generally act in a rational way and make decisions on the margins. For example, if I need gas but I am in a hurry and see there is a more convenient gas station charging a slightly higher price, I may consider the opportunity cost of my time and pay a few more cents per gallon for the convenience.

However, I would be willing to go out of my way and wait in a long line at a gas station whose price is half the cost of the more convenient station to capture the savings. If consumers have this choice the market will catch on and the higher-priced station will be forced to lower its prices in order to be competitive.

In our current health care system, this is not happening. The same imaging scan you receive at one facility compared to another nearby can be as much as 10 times higher in price. The consumer is not given this important information and therefore does not have the ability to make a rational financial decision.

Here is the good news — the previous administration started the process of creating pricing transparency rules, and those rules were signed by the current administration. In short, these rules say that pricing must be posted in machine-readable format prior to service. Unfortunately, the bad news is that these rules are currently only enforced by a federal agency. A report issued by Patient Rights Advocate shows that only 16% of hospitals are complying with these rules.

As a state legislator in Colorado, I did not like the idea of giving more power to federal bureaucrats. Instead, I deprived non-compliant hospitals of state resources, including our state-sanctioned collection agencies and court system. Thus, we empowered the consumer as an enforcement mechanism rather than a federal bureaucrat.

Under the federal rules, if a consumer is given a huge surprise bill from a non-compliant hospital, they have no real

HEALTH CARE NEEDS FREE MARKETS



Left: Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Patrick Neville at the State Capitol. **Top:** Governor Jared Polis signs the health care bill.



recourse other than hoping a federal bureaucrat will act. In Colorado, as of August 8, 2022, the consumer can act if the non-compliant hospital tries to access state resources and then the hospital must recoup all their costs.

Price transparency in health care is not a master key that will unlock and unleash the free market on its own. Instead, it is the first door that leads to the other doors that need to be unlocked. It will take a while to see the benefits of our bipartisan bill in Colorado.

First, we must see transparency. After that, the free market can be unleashed. Innovators can develop products to help consumers make decisions based on price and quality. Colorado also has another door that is already unlocked because we do not have a "certificate of need" requirement. This means there are no barriers to entry for a new investor to start providing service at a lower cost.

Reinventing our health care system will provide great dividends for our future. There are many entrepreneurs who are unwilling to leave their current job and start a new business to innovate and provide a better service because they are worried about their health care coverage. While it will not fix all the problems with health care, price transparency is the first key to rejuvenate and unleash the American economy. ✨

Patrick Neville is a spokesman for Young Americans for Liberty and a former state legislator in Colorado.



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