

## Mayor Looks For Teen Sensations

by **Seth Andrea McCoy**  
Courant News Writer

Boston students interested in working with Mayor Thomas Menino and other civic leaders have an opportunity to do so by sitting on the Mayor's Youth Council (MYC).

The MYC, founded in 1994, is open to Boston teens who will be juniors or seniors when classes begin in September of this year. The MYC starts in mid-May and runs through June of 2006. Council members meet with the mayor and other community leaders on issues of importance to the city's youth. The time commitment is about 10 hours a month. Applications are available online and are due by Friday, April 15.

Patty McMahon, director of the MYC, said that involvement with the youth council is a chance for students to participate in city government and have an impact in their neighborhoods.

"A lot of times people only see government from the outside,"

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*Back Bay's Meredith Pierce and Beacon Hill's Natalie Cucchiara are members of the Mayor's Youth Council*

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she explained. "The council gives students the opportunity to represent their community and sit with the decision makers in city hall, and all other levels of government, to formulate programs that meet the needs of the youth. They actually become part of the system and learn how government works."

McMahon added that the council has also worked on filling gaps in existing city services to make them more effective in serving Boston's young people.

"Sometimes we will have programs in place, but the age-range for the program doesn't apply to high school kids," she said. "The council will work with the city, and sometimes non-profit organizations, to improve those services so we reach more teens."

### Mayor's Youth Council

Applications can be found at: <http://www.bostonyouth-zone.com/myc>

To submit applications by mail:  
Mayor's Youth Council  
Boston City Hall  
Room 603  
Boston, MA 02201

*For more information, contact Patty McMahon at 635-4490.*