

## Case study 6: Collective for youth empowerment in STEM and society

The Collective for Youth Empowerment in STEM and Society (CYESS) is an initiative by the US afterschool alliance that aims to elevate youth voices, providing them with STEM experiences and civic training.<sup>203</sup> The second part of their work is supporting adults in organisations to listen and engage with young people and their expertise. The idea is to support young people to have a seat at the table of decision-making. CYESS believes that many societal challenges are rooted in science, so young people need STEM and civic skills to tackle these challenges. Afterschool programmes offer a space where young people can be engaged on these issues, and the collective envisions they will act as a community of practice, learning from existing initiatives and programmes, including pilots, and then can scale these and share them throughout their community. While not directly addressing concepts of media and information literacy and digital citizenship, the founder of the collective believes that equipping young people with STEM and civic skills is a key part of ensuring young people can navigate polluted information.<sup>143</sup>

## References

143. Krishnamurthi, A. Dynamic dialogues. Presented at: Nobel Prize Summit 2023: Truth, Trust, and Hope, Washington DC (2023).
203. Collective for Youth Empowerment in STEM & Society, Collective for youth empowerment in STEM and society. Retrieved 24 July 2023 from <https://cyess.org/>