



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Communications Office

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SUBJECT: 2016 Voter Turnout Increases, Kids Voting Engages over 2000 Youth

BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

2016 Voter Turnout Increases
Kids Voting Engages over 2000 Youth

[Duluth, MN] – The Presidential cycle is now over and Duluth residents came out in full force along with thousands of Duluth kids to cast their votes.

City Clerk, Jeff Cox reports that over 8,100 people voted early or absentee with a total of 48,794 people casting ballots. This is an 80% voter turnout compared to 72% in 2008 and 79% in 2012. Over 7,000 new voter registrations were processed for this election.

“We knew Duluthians would show up in a big way this year, we always do, and this year is no exception. We consistently have high voter turnout and can take pride in the fact that we value our democratic process. No matter where you stand in this election, we cannot underestimate the value of voting and the need for a unified country,” said Mayor Emily Larson.

Over 2,200 kids in Duluth also voted on election day alongside adults casting their votes for President in addition to local seats. Kids Voting has not taken place since 2010 in Duluth but all indications show a successful turnout and great involvement from partners. School kids cast their ballots in support of Hillary Clinton with 65% of the votes and 23% for Donald Trump. Kids also aligned their selection of legislative and county positions with their adult counterparts by supporting a second term for Rick Nolan with 61% and Stewart Mills with 38%.

“When we let kids use their voices at the polls, we teach them about democracy, civic engagement and the value of expressing your vote. It’s important to reach out to kids and ensure they can envision their own contributions to the world and the economy,” said Mayor Emily Larson.

Sponsors of this Kids Voting initiative include the City of Duluth, Duluth Area YMCA, *League of Women Voters Duluth*, the Duluth school district, Duluth Edison schools and Marshall Schools. To obtain a copy of the full Kids Voting Results, please visit,

<https://sites.google.com/a/isd709.org/kids-vote-duluth/kids-voting-results>

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