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Media Tip

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OKC STUDENTS TO AIR CONCERNS AT ‘LISTENING CONFERENCE’

Oklahoma City high school students will voice their concerns about contemporary issues ranging from terrorism to relationships at a “listening conference” Friday, Jan. 30, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Oklahoma City Community College, 7777 S. May Ave.

More than 300 students are expected to attend.

The conference will provide a structured forum for youth to present views and concerns about issues they face to elected officials and community leaders in a position to take action on these issues, said Julie Geddes, Teenline coordinator at the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, an event sponsor.

Topics will include discussion on racial issues, terrorism, substance abuse, suicide, teen parenting, spirituality, stress and adolescent depression.

“No issue is off-limits at this conference,” Geddes said. “This event will allow youth to express themselves and bounce ideas off people who can make a difference in their lives.”

Professionals representing state agencies, mental health organizations, Oklahoma City Public Schools, area sports teams, media outlets and public offices will be present to visit with students, she said.

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