Toolkit for Students & Gap Year Alumni

#explorethegapyear
What is Gap Year Exploration Month?

Gap Year Exploration Month, celebrated annually in the month of February, is a shared initiative of educators, experiential education experts, program providers, industry groups and others who want to promote the benefits of a gap year.

Gap Year Exploration Month exists to:
* Provide information about gap year opportunities.
* Celebrate gap year students and alumni.
* Recognize the significant power and benefits of deliberate gap time.
* Increase community, business and governmental support for the gap year option.
* Educate schools, colleges & universities, students and parents about the gap year option.

Gap Year Exploration Month is entering its inaugural year in 2019, having evolved from the Gap Year Decision Day movement which began in 2017.
## How to Participate

<table>
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<tr>
<th>POST</th>
<th>BOAST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talk up your decision to take a gap year on social media. Post pictures from your gap time using #explorethegapyear</td>
<td>Contact your former high school and offer to give a gap year presentation.</td>
<td>Offer to host an information session for the program you participated in on your gap year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did you vlog or blog about your gap year? Share it with us and we’ll spread the word!</td>
<td>Currently on your gap year? Film a tour of what you are up to and share on Instagram or YouTube using #explorethegapyear</td>
<td>If you had an independent gap year or traveled on your own, organize a small get-together to tell others about your experience.</td>
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Insta-Success

Here’s how past students have celebrated their decision to #explorethegapyear

These students posted as part of Gap Year Decision Day in 2017 and 2018
2019 Student Challenge: Local Press

TV

Pitch your local or regional tv stations with your gap year story

PRINT

Write an op-ed to your local paper or student newspaper about why you took a gap year and why others should consider it

Examples:
Why I’m taking a gap year and daring to fail
Finding Photography Aesthetic After Gap Year
My Perfect Imperfect Gap Year

Share any coverage you receive!

email julia@enroutegapyear.com or dianna@gapyearassociation.org

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Gap Year Resources

* **Gap Year Association**: Planning Guide
* **USA Gap Year Fairs**: Fairs across the US in Jan, Feb & March
* **Go Overseas**: Program Reviews & Articles
* **Teen Life**: Program Reviews & Magazines
* **Go Abroad**: Program Reviews & Articles
* **GapYearly**: Resource for Independent Planning
* **Travel Access Project**: Scholarships & Country Resources
* **GYA Data**: Stats about Gap Years
Gap Year Exploration Month

February 2019

gapyearexplorationmonth.com
#explorethegapyear

Questions?
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