



THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE  
*The Association of Cities and Towns*

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **MML President Todd Nock Launches "Back to the Future" Initiative, Kicking Off Statewide Campus Tour to Inspire Future Municipal Public Servants**

(December 4, 2025) Annapolis, Md. – The [Maryland Municipal League](https://www.mdmunicipal.org) (MML) kicked off its launch of “**Back to the Future**,” a central initiative of 2025-2026 MML President and Pocomoke City Mayor Todd Nock’s year of leadership. The theme signals President Nock’s commitment to reinvesting in Maryland’s youth and a focused vision on building the next generation of leadership in municipalities and public service.



*MML President Todd Nock meets with University of Maryland Students to discuss leadership and internship opportunities*

President Nock began the initiative yesterday with a series of visits to university campuses geographically located within a municipality. The initiative will connect students with opportunities in municipal service, volunteerism, and potential career opportunities. In College Park at the University of Maryland’s Institute for Public Leadership (IPL), President Nock spoke to students about the value of local government careers and community service.

During the event, the IPL unveiled a new paid internship program specifically designed for UMD School of Public Policy graduate and undergraduate students interested in serving local municipalities. Institute for Public Leadership Director John Ronquillo introduced the new internship program stating that "the School of Public Policy values its ongoing partnership with MML, and we are pleased to offer this opportunity to students interested in gaining hands on experience supporting local communities while applying the policy knowledge acquired here at the University of Maryland."

League leadership continued on to Bowie State University, where President Nock connected with students in the Department of History and Government to discuss pathways into public service and the critical role young leaders play in shaping Maryland’s future. During this gathering, titled "Lead Where You Live: Exploring Local Government Careers with Mayor Todd Nock," the President shared his insights on leadership and practical advice for students interested in shaping the future of their communities. He also invited them to engage locally, saying “you have a seat at our municipal table and you have a voice. It is up to

us to cultivate the next generation of leaders and that is why we are here today. Together, we have the ability to be the blueprint for who will come after us.”



*MML CEO Theresa Kuhns and President Todd Nock pose with Bowie State University Undergrad Students*

The “Back to the Future” campus tours is a new initiative aimed at engaging youth and it is a complementary program to two other education initiatives the League has long been invested in the University of Maryland Academy of Local Excellence in Government and the annual Maryland Mayor’s Essay Contest. Both programs have just completed their 26<sup>th</sup> respective years. The League will engage students during their post-secondary years prior to their launch into professional careers offers a “full circle” educational approach for the League and supports the municipal workforce in Maryland, which has grown to include 32,000 dedicated professionals in recent years.

“President Nock’s initiative is designed to bridge the gap between the initial introduction to local government—which has educated over 50,000 fourth graders through the Essay Contest—and the professional development provided to municipal leaders through the University of Maryland Academy of Excellence in Local Government,” shared MML CEO Theresa Kuhns. “The League will also be launching a student delegate program at our upcoming annual summer conference to connect students directly to future employers and current officials.”

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**About The Maryland Municipal League:**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) was founded in 1936 and serves as the collective voice of 161 municipal governments and the 2 million Marylanders it represents. A voluntary, non-profit, nonpartisan association controlled and maintained by city and town governments, MML works to strengthen and support municipal government through advocacy and the development of effective leadership. Through its membership in the National League of Cities MML offers legislative representation in Washington, urban research programs, and a national municipal government information exchange. MML is the only statewide organization in Maryland composed solely of municipal officials and devoted to the promotion of all branches of municipal administration.

