

# Anthony Pico

---



Anthony Pico has been working on behalf of foster youth since the age of 15 with California Youth Connection (CYC) and the Y.O.U.T.H. Training Project. Drawing on his close to two decades in the foster care system, he presents on issues surrounding mental health, abuse and neglect, best practices for social workers, and many other issues attached to his experiences in foster care. At times being called “the spokesman of foster youth”, Anthony has provided first hand real world experiences in the form of panel presentations, keynote addresses, written statements and group trainings.

Anthony was born into the foster care system and lived in 5 separate placements during close to 19 years he spent as a dependent. He was in various types of placements including kinship care, guardianships and adoptions, though he returned to the system after being adopted at age 12. Anthony “aged-out” from the foster care system in February 2008 and now resides in Sacramento, California working as a Legislative Assistant in the California State Assembly. He is pursuing higher education at Sacramento City College.

The organizations Anthony has worked with include: The American Bar Association, National C.A.S.A., Casey Family Programs, Pitzer College, The California Institute for Mental Health, California Youth Connection, John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes, Honoring Emancipated Youth (HEY).

## **Positions Held:**

San Francisco Youth Commission; Mayoral Appointee Commissioner 2006-2007 term  
Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care; Commissioner Representing  
Youth Constituency/ CYC, Appointed Feb 2006  
California Youth Connection Advisory Board Chair 2006

## **Awards Received:**

Outstanding Youth Leadership, ILSP San Francisco 2005  
Youth Leadership Award, HEY/ SF City and County 2005  
Youth Leadership Award, HEY/ SF City and County 2006  
Youth Leadership Award, HEY/ SF City and County 2007  
Hearts in Hands Advocate Award-The Child Abuse Prevention Center of California 2008  
Congressional Recognition of Achievements in Child Advocacy (2008) - Hon. Doris  
Matsui, Congress Floor

## **Media Attention Includes:**

This American Life Piece titled “Mr. Successful”

[http://www.newamerica.net/publications/articles/2007/mr\\_successful\\_5800](http://www.newamerica.net/publications/articles/2007/mr_successful_5800)

San Jose Mercury News

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/youth\\_commission\\_index.asp?id=49172](http://www.sfgov.org/site/youth_commission_index.asp?id=49172)

Various Chronicle Letters to the Editor that can be found online at:

<http://www.sfgate.com>