YMCA Website Services (aka Open Y).

A Drupal-Powered Platform for Good

imagex





Introduction.



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About ImageX.

ImageX was founded in 2001, has been a specialized Drupal web agency since 2006 and is the top-ranked Drupal agency globally, offering a full spectrum of digital services, having launched over 500 Drupal initiatives.

Our team includes 90+ full-time, permanent staff with expertise in Drupal projects, including a robust digital experience team that has specializations in UX, UI Design, SEO, Accessibility and Content Strategy. The development team includes 45+ full-time, Drupal-specialized developers.

Headquartered in Vancouver, with offices in Brazil and Ukraine, along with remote workers across North America, the team offer time-zone coverage, 20+ hours/day.

ImageX by the Numbers









Who We Work With







A Partnership Based on Success

ImageX has been a preferred vendor to the YMCA since 2016 when we were first engaged by the YMCA North (then known as Twin Cities) to contribute to the first release of the Open Y (now Web Services) platform.

Since then, ImageX has been trusted by over 35 associations in the US and Canada to deliver digital strategy and technology solutions to their members.

Agenda.

- 1 Why Open Y?
- 2 Core Features
- 3 Community First

- 4 Open Y in your community
- 5 Get Involved



National reach, local operations.

YMCA of the USA is a federated organization that manages 800 associates as part of their national network.

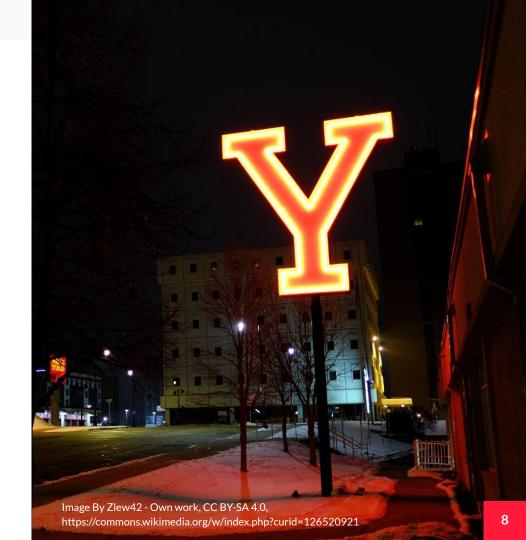
There are 2,700 physical YMCA branch locations across all 50 states, with programs in over 10,000 communities serving 22 million members and counting." (That's just in the USA!)



National guidance, local implementation.

YMCA of the USA provides guidance on branding, but implementation is up to each individual branch or association.

Physical branding is strongly aligned, but digital strategy is still very much an ongoing process for each organization.



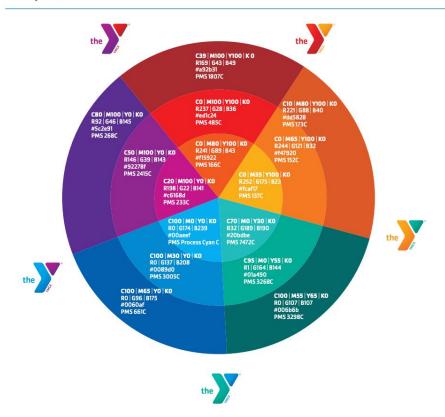
National guidance, local implementation.

The Brand Graphics guide provides almost 50 pages of documentation on color, font, logo, voice & tone, use of imagery, and more.

Implementing those details is the tricky bit...



Main palette



National identity, local customizations.

Some features are almost universal:

- Swimming pool
- Gym
- Children's and family programs
- Strong community involvement

Some features are highly variable:

- Residential facilities
- Ice skating rinks
- E-sports labs



Evolution of the distribution.

Grassroots organization

In 2016 a group of YMCA digital, marketing, and technology experts recognized the digital opportunities that exist if they work together as a community and established YMCA Website Services.

Community stewardship & growth

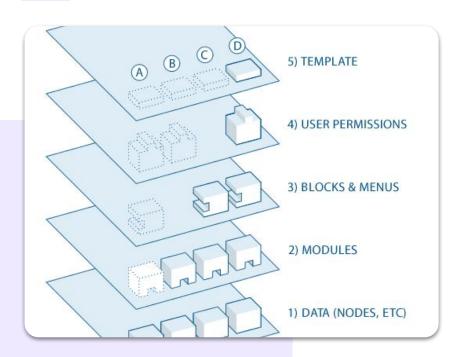
A core team led by a small group of YMCAs including the YMCA of the North (formerly Greater Twin Cities), Seattle, Houston, WNC, & others guided the distribution until 2022.

Centralization

In 2022, ownership was transferred to YMCA of the USA's Digital Services.

The core team of Y-USA, ITCare, ImageX, and Five Jars took over product management, development, and support.

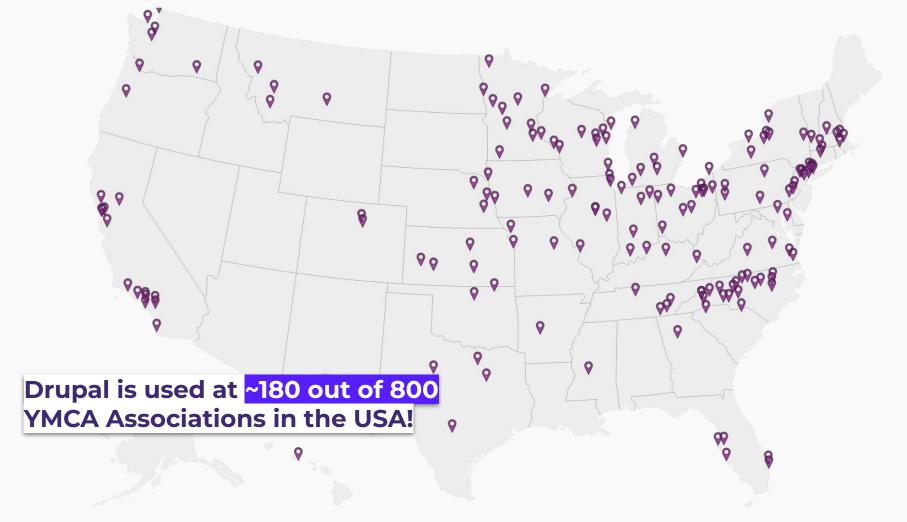
Drupal + YMCA = YMCA Website Services.



The structure of the YMCA creates autonomy but can also lead to digital waste and redundancy. Open Y solves the YMCA's digital challenges while providing a better digital experience for the customer.

Code is developed by multiple agencies for hundreds of YMCA associations and shared via GitHub and Drupal.org.

- YMCA-centric Layout Builder Blocks
- YMCA brand-compliant & WCAG AA accessible theme
- Deep integrations with 3rd-party APIs
- All the power of Drupal Core & Contrib





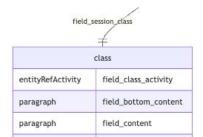
The Best of Drupal Core & Contrib.



Structured Data

An Open Y site starts with robust Content Types that support a broad array of data:

- Locations
- Programs/Activities
- Articles/Events





Meta tags & Schema.org Support

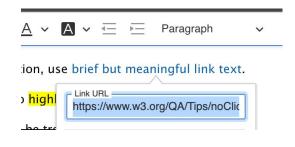
Whether the data is going into URL share cards, rich search suggestions, or Al-scrapers, good data makes the results better.





CKEditor 5, Webform, and more

When structured content won't cut it, Drupal gives content editors even more tools, like CKEditor 5 and Webform.



Deep API Integrations



Drupal-powered

Between Core and Contrib, most integrations just require putting the building blocks together.

- Powerful migrations
- Complex API integrations
- Strict security



Community-honed

There are dozens of systems to integrate, but hundreds of Y's.

When a Y works with a new vendor, their agency works to open source as much of the integration as possible.

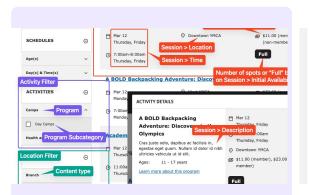


APIs are NOT created equal

Some endpoints are fast enough for us to call them directly or be used as a backend for SearchAPI in a complex application.

Other endpoints have strict call limits or are just slow and can only be run daily.

Decoupled apps connect members to goals





Provides an interactive tool to help members find and book activities like child care, camps, and swim lessons.

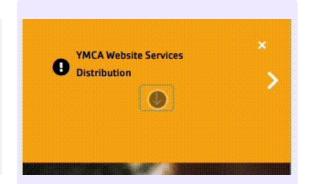
Built with Vue and SearchAPI, with Solr or API backend.



Membership Calculator

Provides an interactive "membership wizard" with location and pricing options to attract members.

Built with Vue, FormAPI, and AJAX.

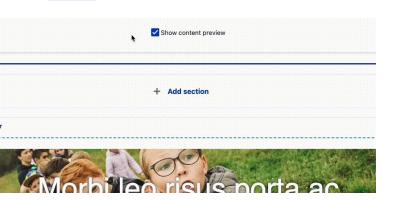


Site Alerts

Displays timely information in a thin banner across your site, just below the header or above the footer.

Built in React with a custom route serving Alert data.

Brand-compliant page building with Layout Builder



20+ YMCA-specific block types

The core team analyzed 100k's of instances of 100s of block & paragraph types from dozens of client sites. We narrowed the list down to ~20 block types. Designs are based on standard Bootstrap design patterns and customized for YMCA content & branding.

Customization out of the box

Content editors can change the color scheme and many other design elements at a content type, page, or block level, while still keeping within the brand guidelines.

Built on top of Bootstrap Styles, Layout Builder Blocks, and Bootstrap Layout Builder contrib modules, and making heavy use of CSS variables.











A rising tide...

As with many franchise-based nonprofits, there's little competition among regions.

YMCA's "swim & gym" memberships are often competing with national commercial gyms, so cooperation with each other is a must.



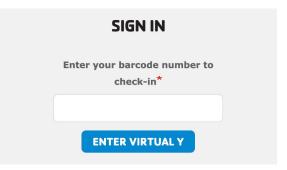
Features when Ys need them





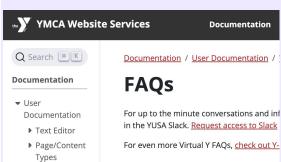
Themes

- Rose Twin Cities, 2017
- Lily Long Island, 2018
- Carnation Dayton, 2018
- Layout Builder YUSA, 2022
- Small Y VMLYR, 2024



Virtual Y

- COVID response developed by YNorth
- Distributed on GitHub and run as SaaS by YUSA



Documentation

- PDF Manual was Initially developed for YMCA Brandywine
- Improved and ported to Discourse by Middle Tennessee
- Re-iterated on and migrated to Git/Hugo by YUSA/ImageX

Multi-channel community support

Support ranged from broad to in-depth, from formal to casual.

- National Office promotion on external site and intranet
- Open documentation
- Monthly virtual community meetings
- Tutorials and meetings archived to YouTube
- Message board/Slack for discussion
- Collaboration between supporting agencies

Join the conversation and keep in touch!



the gateway to YMCA's Digital Services

ds-docs.y.org

youtube.com/@ymcasdigitalservices

github.com/YCloudYUSA

Organization on GitHub with main code repository and components

YUSA Slack discuss & get help. Invite in chat.

? ycloud@ymca.net

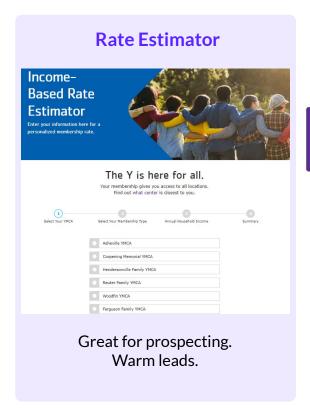
Contact us with any questions

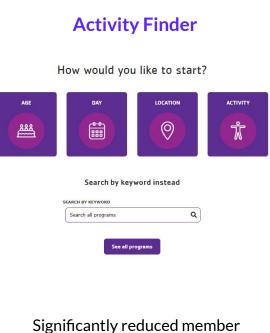




YMCA Western North Carolina

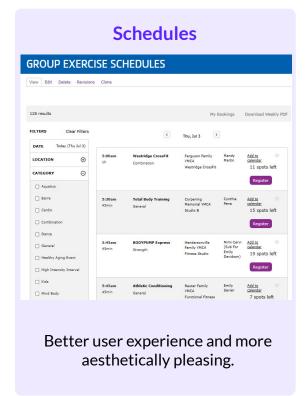
YMCA of WNC Web Features





complaints about program sign up

process.



Rate Estimator

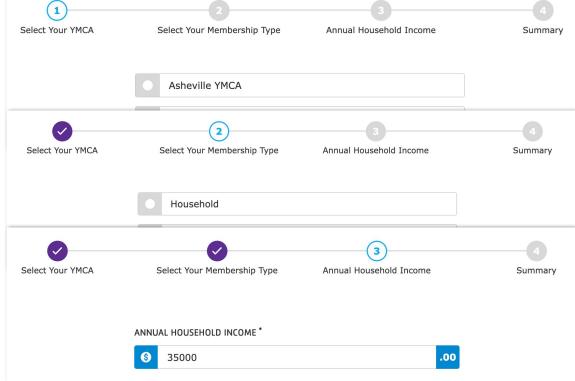
Based on the Open Y Membership Calculator, this module is great for prospecting new members and bringing in warm leads.

\$67.20/month
+ \$25 Joining Fee
Click the button to apply for financial assistance online:

Apply for financial assistance

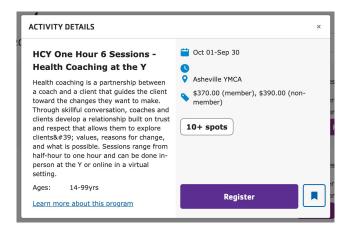
Income-Based Rate Estimator





Activity Finder

With minor customizations on the Open Y version, WNC's Activity Finder significantly reduced member complaints about the program sign up process.



Activity Finder

Find activities that suit your interests, age, location, and schedule!



How would you like to start?







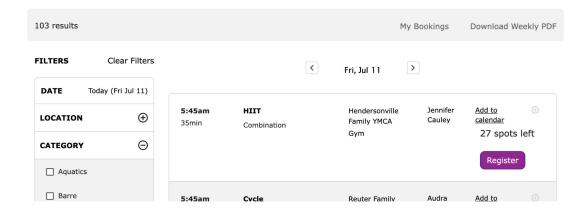


CENTERS	1264 of Results 1		
Asheville YMCA 200 results	Black Mountain YMCA 175 results	Community Health 5 results	
Corpening Memorial YMCA	Ferguson Family YMCA 158 results	Hendersonville Family YMCA 172 results	

Group Schedules

Integrating with their third party vendor, The Group Schedules module creates a better and more aesthetically pleasing user experience.

GROUP EXERCISE SCHEDULES



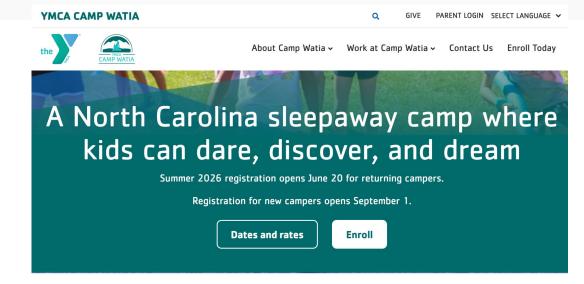


Hendersonville Family YMCA | July 14th - July 20th

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BODYCOMBAT Fitness Studio Sign Up	6:00AM-6:45AM (Cardio) Allyson B.	5:00PM-5:55PM (Cardio) Ashley B.	8:00AM-8:45AM (Cardio) Allyson B.	5:00PM-5:55PM (Cardio) Ashley B.	8:00AM-8:45AM (Cardio) Allyson B.	8:30AM-9:15AM (Cardio) Allyson B.
Pilates Gym Sign Up	8:00AM-8:45AM (Pilates) Linda C.		8:00AM-8:45AM (Pilates) Linda C.		8:00AM-8:45AM (Mind Body) Wendy S.	
BODYCOMBAT Community Room Sign Up	8:00AM-8:45AM (Cardio) Allyson B.					
BODYPUMP Express Fitness Studio Sign Up	8:00AM-8:45AM (Combination) Ann F.	5:45AM-6:30AM (Strength) Emily D.	8:00AM-8:45AM (Combination) Ann F.	5:45AM-6:30AM (Strength) Emily D.		
		11:00AM-11:45AM (Combination) Mimi C.		11:00AM-11:45AM (Combination) Ann F.		

Independent Camp Site

YWNC also has an independent camp site that runs on the same codebase using Drupal Multisite. This means the Y's limited staff and budget can build multiple digital experiences efficiently and consistently.



An overnight camp in the Blue Ridge Mountains



Add-on activities at YMCA Camp Watia

Looking for even more adventure? Here are a few ways to make the most of your camper's stay.



STAYOVER WEEKENDS



HORSEBACK RIDING



WHITEWATER RAFTING



WATIA ADVENTURES











Try Open Y yourself



Explore the Sandboxes

sandboxes.y.org



Start the Forge

drupalforge.org/template/openy



Pull the Code

ds-docs.y.org/community

github.com/YCloudYUSA drupal.org/project/openy/ecosystem

Questions.

imagex

Thank you.



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