

Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

APPLICATION

The mission of Youth Leadership Muskogee is to prepare area high school age youth to make a positive difference through community leadership.

Youth Leadership introduces participants to their community through monthly sessions that are designed to foster community pride and a sense of ownership.

Goals

1. To develop leadership skills in youth.
2. To gain an awareness of community resources and volunteer opportunities.
3. To build a life-long commitment to the role and responsibility of community citizenship.
4. To gain a greater understanding of current issues through interaction and problem-solving with peers and community leaders.
5. To foster an understanding and appreciation for the Chamber of Commerce and the business community which it represents.
6. To develop pride in the community.

Session Topics

CommUNITY:

“How Do I Fit In”

“It’s My World”

“I Have a Choice”

Graduation

Team Building/Networking

Community Development

Democracy & Government

Quality of Life

All sessions will be interactive and activity based.

Personal Information

Please print or type application

Applicant Name (first, middle, last) Name you go by *Sex: M / F *Birth Date & Year

Home Mailing Address (PO Box if you have one) City and Zip Code

Home Phone Number Cell Phone Number School Now Attending Current Grade Level

School Address School's Phone Number

Name of School Counselor Shirt Size Did you apply last year?

*Race or Ethnic Group:

____ American Indian

____ Asian

____ Black

____ Hispanic

____ White

____ Other (specify) _____

Applicant Lives With:

____ Both Parents

____ Mother

____ Father

____ Other Specify: _____

How did you find out about Youth Leadership Muskogee?

*Equal Opportunity Information: Chamber of Commerce does not discriminate based on race, sex, creed, national origin, age or handicap. The purpose of gathering this information is to ascertain the effectiveness of recruitment efforts and to ensure that proper facilities are available to serve all students. This information is not used in the selection process.

ATTENDANCE

Full attendance by each participant is essential if the Youth Leadership program is to meet its objectives. Youth Leadership will work with schools to encourage school attendance credit. Please check the program calendar on the enclosed information sheet. If selected, you must be able to attend all program sessions.

I understand and accept the attendance requirements for Youth Leadership.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Signature _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Date _____

*Does applicant have a handicap or health condition that requires special attention?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain: _____

SCHOOL APPROVAL

All applicants **MUST** have the approval of their school principal to attend the sessions of Youth Leadership Muskogee. Please have your principal sign below. Please return this form with your application.

I approve of the participation of _____ (student name)
in the Youth Leadership Muskogee program.

I understand that attendance is mandatory for Youth Leadership Muskogee. I will serve as an advocate to our faculty to ensure the student is not penalized for missing school classes or activities.

Principal Name _____

School _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Signature of Principal _____ Date _____

Selection Process

1. **DEADLINE:** All applications, signatures by principal, parent/guardian, and reference forms must be completed and received at the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce office at 310 W. Broadway, Muskogee, OK 74401 **by December 18, 2009.** The Chamber fax is 682-2403. Late applications will not be accepted.
2. The completeness and quality of your application is the major criteria for selection. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
3. This is a blind selection process. The judges have no record of name or school of applicants. The Personal Information page is not used in the selection process.
3. Each application is scored by 5 judges that are not employees of the Greater Muskogee Area Chamber of Commerce or the City of Muskogee. The scores are added together then averaged. The total is your final score. The top 30 scores are accepted.
4. Selection notification will be mailed no later than January 8, 2010.

Parental Permission

I am the parent/legal guardian of _____, I have read the information on the Youth Leadership Muskogee program and am willing to have my child participate. I understand the selection process and I agree to be responsible for providing transportation for my child in connection with all sessions of Youth Leadership during the school year in which he/she is a participant.

I hereby release and hold harmless the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce, its members, agents, employees or any individuals involved in the planning, organization or presentation of Youth Leadership programming for any accident, injury, illness, or any damage whatsoever related to the above-mentioned student's attendance at/or participation in, any activity or session of Youth Leadership.

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Signature: _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Additional Parent or Guardian Information: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Signature: _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Photo/Video Release

I (we) give permission to the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce to use photographs, and/or video, and/or audio of my (our) child obtained while participating in Youth Leadership Muskogee. I (we) release the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce, its members, agents, employees or any individuals involved in the planning, organization or presentation of Youth Leadership Muskogee programming from any and all liabilities arising from the use of these items for publicity purposes and waive the right to all negatives, photos, tapes and reproductions, as well as waive my (our) right to inspect or approve the finished photographs and/or tapes.

Print Child's Name: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Please list in order of importance to you up to five school, volunteer, religious, social, athletic, scouting or other activities or organizations in which you have participated during the last four years. Name of activity/organization and when involved:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What activities would you like to be in?

_____	_____
_____	_____

If you haven't had the opportunity to participate in activities/organizations, why not?

___Time ___Lack of interest ___Transportation ___Work ___Financial reasons ___Other (describe)

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Why do you think you should be chosen for YL? (Worth 10 pts) _____

WORK EXPERIENCE / HOME / SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

List any part-time job experience, paid or volunteer, and briefly tell what is involved:

Do you currently have a part-time job? _____ How many hours per week? _____
If selected for the Youth Leadership Muskogee, would your job conflict with your participation? _____
What arrangements would you make? _____

Explain what your family/home responsibilities consist of: _____

Explain what your school responsibilities (other than class work) consist of: _____

ABOUT YOU

How would your best friend describe you? (Worth 5 pts) _____

Who is your hero or heroine (someone you admire)? Why? (Worth 10 pts) _____

What do you do for fun? (Worth 5 pts) _____

What do you consider your most important achievement so far? Describe how you have made a difference? (Worth 15 pts) _____

What does this quote mean to you as an individual? (Worth 10 pts)
“You see, character does count. For too long we have gotten by in a society that says the only thing right is to get by and the only thing wrong is to get caught. Character is doing what’s right when nobody is looking.”
- Former Representative J.C. Watts, Jr.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Explain your goals for the future and how Youth Leadership would help you obtain them. (Worth 15 pts)

If you could change anything in your community, what would it be and why? (Worth 15 pts) _____

CONCLUSION

What would you like to tell us about yourself (Strengths/Weaknesses) (Worth 10 pts) _____

REFERENCES

Please give the attached reference forms to two adults who know you well, who are not your parents or a relative. (Example: a teacher, religious leader, youth club advisor, boss, etc.) Remind each person that the reference form should be given back to you or sent to Muskogee Chamber of Commerce, P O Box 797, Muskogee, OK 74402 or faxed to 918-682-2403 by December 18, 2009.

YOUR NAME _____

1. Name of Reference (worth 2.5 points) _____

Position/Title _____

School/Business/Organization _____

Address _____ Phone _____

2. Name of Reference (worth 2.5 points) _____

Position/Title _____

School/Business/Organization _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Youth Leadership Reference Form

(Please return to the Chamber office at P O Box 797, OK, 74402 or fax to 918-682-2403 **by Dec. 18, 2009**)

STUDENT NAME: _____

TO THE REFERENCE: The person listed above is an applicant for the Youth Leadership Muskogee program. It is an interactive, hands-on experience with the community, aimed at youth who are beginning to show leadership potential, youth who are proven leaders and youth who are non-traditional leaders. The Selection Committee is aware of the time necessary to prepare a reference and gratefully acknowledges your help. Please type or print. This application will be reviewed in confidence.

Name of Reference: _____ Position/Title _____

School/Business/Religious Group/Organization: _____ Work Phone: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone: _____

1. For how long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

2. Comment on the applicant's relationship with his/her peers: _____

3. How do you think this applicant would benefit from this program? _____

4. Please make an assessment of the applicant using the ten criteria below:

5 - Excellent; 4 - Good; 3 - Satisfactory; 2 - Poor; 1 - Not Acceptable

- A) _____ LEADERSHIP INTEGRITY: The degree to which the applicant is recognized and respected by peers. Includes personal integrity, character and reputation.
- B) _____ TEAMWORK EFFECTIVENESS: Demonstrated success as a leader in working with others to get things done.
- C) _____ ANALYTICAL/PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS: Mental ability to understand complex issues. Includes depth of insight and desire to seek solutions of issues facing our youth and/or community.
- D) _____ COMMUNICATION SKILLS: Includes writing, speaking and listening, and willingness to interact with both individuals and groups.
- E) _____ POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH: Openness to broadening experiences and contacts, especially with those of different peer groups or viewpoints.
- F) _____ DEPENDABILITY/CONSISTENCY: Commitment to following through on tasks undertaken.
- G) _____ COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Degree of involvement and membership in organizations in applicant's community.
- H) _____ EXTRA-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT: Degree of involvement and membership in organizations in applicant's school.
- I) _____ ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT LEADERSHIP EFFECTIVENESS: Extent to which currently involved and successful in leadership activities.
- J) _____ ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL: Desire for and commitment to future involvement in leadership positions.

What else would you like to say about the applicant? _____

Signature

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