

**Youth Leadership Opportunity Warren County
2011-2012 YOUTH APPLICATION**
(Please type or print)

OVERVIEW

Youth Leadership Opportunity Warren County (YLOWC) is a Chamber of Commerce sponsored leadership development program designed to provide local emerging and existing youth leaders with the tools to develop individual leadership skills, influence their schools, and contribute to their community. The purpose of YLOWC is to train students in leadership techniques and community awareness so that they may become familiar with current issues, community resources, opportunities, and other factors influencing the direction of Warren County's future. You do not have to be the president of your class or the team captain. If you think you have leadership potential or you have a desire to learn more about leadership and opportunities in your community, then YLOWC is for you.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Completed Application
- References completed in a sealed envelope
- Signatures from you, your parent or guardian and a school official

SELECTION PROCESS

1. **The application must be received (not postmarked) at the McMinnville-Warren County Chamber of Commerce on or before: JULY 15, 2011.**
2. The Selection Committee will review only completed applications submitted by the deadline. Applications are screened blindly, that is, all reference to the student's name, school and other applicant data is removed before the committee reviews each application. No person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination. The selection committee will review only pages 6-8.
3. The application will be judged on the following guidelines:
 - ❖ Leadership experience or potential
 - ❖ Involvement in family, school, church, community, and/or civic organizations
 - ❖ Cooperative nature and willingness to participate in a group
 - ❖ Awareness of current events
 - ❖ Strong communication skills
 - ❖ Good performance in school and/or work
 - ❖ Enthusiasm for sharing new-found skills with others
 - ❖ Commitment to YLOWC

Points will be awarded in the following areas:

- ❖ **Completion of application (5 pts.)**
 - ❖ **Letters of Reference: (15 pts.)** Indicates participant meets the guidelines as stated and addresses character, responsibility and work ethic.
 - ❖ **Organizations & Activities (15 pts.)**
 - School
 - Non-school or non employment organizations & activities
 - Work & Volunteer Experiences
 - ❖ **General Information Section**
 - Description of Self (15 pts.)
 - Education & Career Goals (5 pts.)
 - Role Model Questions (15 pts.)
 - Current Events, Identifying Problems & Creating Change (30 pts.)
4. Do not use additional pages. The application form will be the only information considered.
 5. A minimum of 10 students will be selected for the YLOWC class.
 6. All applicants will be notified of selection no later than **the first of September.**
 7. An orientation for selected participants and parents will be held in September.
 8. A mandatory retreat will be held in September.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Enrollment is open to juniors only with a C (75 – 84) average or above. Failing to meet this requirement throughout YLOWC may result in dismissal from program.
2. The success of this program depends upon the commitment of each participant to punctuality and full attendance. Tardiness or absence is unfair and disrespectful to the speakers who give freely and willingly of their time. Accordingly, recognition for completing the program depends on punctuality and attendance at all programs, including project meetings.

Participation may require special arrangements to be made with your teachers, coaches, etc. Please discuss prior to completing application. You are expected to attend the entire day's session.

100% ATTENDANCE is expected at all sessions including graduation. Absences due to extenuating circumstances (i.e. death in the family, illness) may be excused. If a participant misses 2 or more sessions, sessions must be made up in order to graduate.

Absences will be reported to school principal. Repeated absences will result in dismissal from the program. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, the session will also be cancelled. The make up for the missed session will be a special project that will pertain to the session missed. The special project will be announced at the next scheduled session.

3. Two sealed letters of recommendation from individuals other than a parent or a relative are required. One reference must be a **teacher or counselor** from the past (2) years; the second may be from a **personal reference** of your choice that you have known for at least two (2) years.
4. Participants must call the YLOWC class sponsor on the Friday before scheduled class to confirm participation. Please call for yourself! Friends should not place calls on your behalf. A copy of the attendees will be faxed along with the session's agenda to the principal of each school. If for some reason you are unable to attend the session at the last minute, ***you must notify your school and the YLOWC Class Sponsor.***
5. If accepted into YLOWC, there is a program fee of **\$75.00** to cover some of the cost of the program. The fee is **due at the Orientation Session**. Financial assistance may be available for students who cannot easily pay the fee. Contact the Chamber of Commerce at 473-6611 for more information.
6. The Orientation Session is mandatory for parent(s)/guardian(s) and participants. Failure to attend for any reason other than illness, serious accident or death in the family, will result in disqualification from the program.
7. Any type of disciplinary action given to the participants by school officials will also apply to the participant's involvement in YLOWC.
8. Dress code will follow the same guidelines as issued by the Warren County School System. Please dress in a respectful manner. Comfortable shoes should be worn each session. Tennis shoes are appropriate.
9. Students will be photographed, filmed, or videotaped during the course of their participation in YLOWC.
10. If selected for the YLOWC program, you will be asked to attend and/or participate in Individual Projects.. **Projects must be completed between October and March.**

YLOWC Individual Projects

Mandatory Meeting

- ❖ Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Banquet held at the end of January

Choose two (2) of the following activities:

- ❖ Attend Warren County School Board Meeting
- ❖ Attend Warren County Commission Meeting
- ❖ Attend Mayor and Board of Alderman Meeting

Complete seven (7) hours of Community Service (must be completed by March Class meeting). Suggested activities include:

- ❖ Volunteer at a Nursing Home
- ❖ Volunteer at the Senior Citizens Center
- ❖ Write an article for the school or county newspaper and submit pictures of one YLOWC session (please include copy) (3 hours credit)
- ❖ Provide information and pictures of one YLOWC session for submission to school website or cable channel (3 hours credit)
- ❖ Volunteer for an activity with a community organization such as Rotary, Exchange Club, Child Advocacy Center, Habitat for Humanity, CIC, Rescue Squad annual Toy Drive, Meals-on-Wheels, etc.
- ❖ Volunteer and serve as a page for a Tennessee State Senator or Representative while legislature is in session (January – May) (7 hours credit).
- ❖ Other activities may be considered but must be approved in advance by your class sponsor

Contact Information and Meeting dates/times may be found on the Warren County Chamber of Commerce Website: <http://www.warrentn.com>

PROGRAM and SCHEDULE

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL SESSIONS

PROGRAM DATES

- The YLOWC Program begins in September and concludes in April.
- Class sessions will be scheduled the **first** Thursday of each month, with the exception of the visit to the state capital in March. That date will be announced at the January meeting.
- The first sessions (orientation/retreat) will occur in September and are mandatory events
- The last session (graduation) will be held in April during evening hours.

PROGRAM TOPICS

- Program topics include: Agriculture, Tourism, Education, Business & Industry, Warren County History, Life skills, Health and Social Services, Law, Local Government, and State Government.

All sessions begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. at the McMinnville-Warren County Chamber of Commerce, 110 S. Court Square, McMinnville, TN 37110, unless otherwise noted. You may reach the Chamber at 931-473-6611 or via email warrencotn@blomand.net.



PERSONAL INFORMATION

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLACK INK. ALL RESPONSES MUST FIT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.

NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME
Name Used:		*Race/Ethnicity:
Home Address:		* <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male
City/State/Zip:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
E-Mail Address:	Date of Birth:	
Name(s) of Parent/Guardian:		Polo shirt size (class shirt):
School Presently Attending:	Current GPA:	
Are any family members graduates of the Adult Leadership Program? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
If yes, please list name(s):		

**To ensure that class members reflect the diversity of the community, please specify your gender and race/ethnicity*

I attest that all information provided is correct. I have read and understand the program requirements, and if selected, will meet them.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

PARENTAL CONSENT

I am the parent/legal guardian of _____ (student name). I have read the information on the YLOWC program and am willing to have my child participate. I understand that attendance at all sessions including orientation and graduation is mandatory. YLOWC, its agents and its employees have my full permission and consent to transport and otherwise provide transportation for my child by bus, private automobile, vans or other appropriate means of transportation in connection with all sessions of YLOWC during the school year in which he/she is a participant. Students may be photographed, filmed, or videotaped during the course of their participation in YLOWC. I hereby give permission for YLOWC to record images of my son/daughter in the course of normal activities during the program and to use resultant products for dissemination of information and publicity. I hereby release and hold harmless YLOWC, its members, agents, employees or any individuals involved in the planning, organization or presentation of YLOWC, 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 YLOWC.

I have read & understand the program requirements, including the attendance policy. My son/daughter has my support & permission to participate in the YLOWC program.

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Signature of Parent(s)/Legal Guardian _____

Date _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Mobile Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____



ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

List *in order of importance to you* up to five (5) school organizations and non-school (For example: community/civic/religious/scouting/volunteer/athletic, etc.) related activities in which you participated during the last four (4) years. Please do not abbreviate organization names.

	Activity/Organization	Leadership Responsibility/Involvement
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

If you have not had the opportunity to participate in school or non-school activities/organizations, why not?

- time
 not interested
 transportation
 work
 financial reasons
 other (describe) _____

WORK EXPERIENCE

List any part-time job experiences, paid or volunteer, and briefly tell what it involved.

	From/To	Position	Responsibility/Involvement
1.			
2.			
3.			

Will you be or are you working during the 2011-2012 school year? Yes ___ No ___
If so, how many hours do you work during the week? _____

Do you have any extracurricular activities that will interfere with attending a full day session? No Yes

Explain _____

DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME IN ANY TEXT OR AT TOP OF THE PAGE!

ROLE MODELS

Identify someone you admire. Describe what you value in them.

If you could spend a day with a current world leader, artist, or sports star, who would you choose and why?

How can you be a role model for younger children in your community?

CURRENT EVENTS, IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS & CREATING CHANGE

Discuss one specific problem you have observed in your school or Warren County. Tell why it is important, the issues it raises and make at least one suggestion for its solution.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY WARREN COUNTY REFERENCE FORM

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
2. Are there any areas in which the applicant could improve or benefit from participating in YLOWC?
3. Please rank the applicant's ability in the following areas by circling the appropriate number with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest:

- Ability to communicate with others

5 4 3 2 1

- Participation when in a group setting

5 4 3 2 1

- Interest in community affairs

5 4 3 2 1

- Potential for becoming an involved community citizen

5 4 3 2 1

- Ability to lead peers

5 4 3 2 1

Additional Comments: _____

YLOWC appreciates your time and willingness to complete this form. If you have any questions about the Youth Leadership Program, please contact Monti Hillis @ 808-4899 or the McMinnville-Warren County Chamber of Commerce @ 473-6611.

Please return this completed form to the applicant in a sealed envelope.

(Please write students' name on the BACK of this page)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY WARREN COUNTY REFERENCE FORM

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
2. Are there any areas in which the applicant could improve or benefit from participating in YLOWC?
3. Please rank the applicant's ability in the following areas by circling the appropriate number with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest:

a. Ability to communicate with others

5 4 3 2 1

b. Participation when in a group setting

5 4 3 2 1

c. Interest in community affairs

5 4 3 2 1

d. Potential for becoming an involved community citizen

5 4 3 2 1

e. Ability to lead peers

5 4 3 2 1

Additional Comments: _____

YLOWC appreciates your time and willingness to complete this form. If you have any questions about the Youth Leadership Program, please contact Monti Hillis @ 808-4899 or the McMinnville-Warren County Chamber of Commerce @ 473-6611.

Please return this completed form to the applicant in a sealed envelope.

(Please write students' name on the BACK of this page)

PRINCIPAL CONSENT

All applicants **MUST** have the approval of their school principal to attend the eight (8) mandatory sessions of Youth Leadership Opportunity Warren County. Please have your principal sign below:

I approve of the participation of _____ (student name) in the YLOWC program for 2011-2012. The student meets the criteria of being academically sound.

Principal's Name _____

Signature of Principal _____

School _____

Date _____

School Phone _____