

iowapridenetwork youth council

Membership Expectations

Job Description:

Iowa Pride Network Youth Council is a diverse group of youth leaders from GSAs all over Iowa. As a member of the Youth Council you will learn skills to become a stronger activist and work towards creating a safer climate at your school for LGBTQ youth and straight allies. You will get support around creating a campaign, event planning or starting a GSA club on your campus. In addition, Youth Council members are responsible for giving input and helping guide the programs of Iowa Pride Network. Youth Council members will represent the needs of GSAs and youth activists from their geographic region as well as plan events and lead peer-to-peer workshops, leadership trainings, conferences and other organizing projects.

Schedule:

The Youth Council meets once a month, generally at the Regional GSA Coalition meetings. Meetings will take place at the coalition meeting location, which will be announced on Iowa Pride Network's website and via email/list-serve. Typically, Youth Council members who are also involved in planning and/or implementing other trainings and conferences will meet during additional weekend days as well.

Goals:

As a member of the Youth Council you will have monthly opportunities to:

- Network with youth from throughout your region
- Get peer and staff support and feedback on your ongoing campaign, action or event
- Give input on Iowa Pride Network's programs and organizing projects

In addition you may have an opportunity to

- Help plan and run a youth led conference or present workshops at local conferences
- Plan and participate in Iowa Pride Network social activities
- Discuss emerging trends in the LGBTQ and greater social justice movement
- Provide occasional technical assistance to other GSAs

Membership:

While it is not mandatory that you be a member of a GSA, all Youth Council members are encouraged to be a part of an established or underground (not an official club on campus) GSA or be working to start one. Members can also be a member of a diversity/tolerance club working on LGBTQ issues. All Youth Council members must be committed to making change at their schools by making them more supportive and safer for LGBTQ students and working to defeat homophobia and transphobia. Each semester Youth Council members are expected to be working on an action, campaign, or event that furthers them towards reaching these goals.

Requirements & Expectations:

- Make a one-year commitment to serve on the Youth Council

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- Prepare for and attend all monthly meetings of the Youth Council
- Agree that you will not miss more than two consecutive meetings a year
- Committed to creating change for LGBTQ youth and fighting homophobia and transphobia in schools
- Develop and suggest ideas to strengthen Iowa Pride Network
- A student in a public or private middle or high school in Iowa
- Represent your region as fully as possible
- Identify needs of GSAs and LGBTQ youth and straight allies in schools and guide the direction of Iowa Pride Network activities and programs accordingly
- Help plan and/or conduct workshops at Iowa Pride Network trainings and conferences
- Help coordinate youth involvement in events such as Day of Silence, Annual GSA Conference, Iowa Gay–Straight Alliance Day and LGBT & Allied Student Day at the Capitol
- Be a resource to new and/or struggling GSAs in your region
- Attend and participate in all five Iowa Pride Network trainings/conferences (see time commitments on last page)

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APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 2nd, 2008

All Applicants Must Sign the Application Certification Form

First

Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home

Phone: _____

Email

Address: _____

Do we need to be discreet/confidential when contacting you? ___Yes ___No

Current Age: _____

School you

attend: _____

Name of GSA or LGBTQA-related

organization: _____

Year in school (for 2008-2009

year): _____

Iowa Pride Network strives for diversity in all aspects of its programs. The following three questions are optional but are very important to us:

Gender(s): _____

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Sexual

Orientation(s): _____

Ethnic

Background(s): _____

Reference: Please provide contact info for a reference who know about your work with a GSA or LGBTQ youth group and/or who can attest to your abilities as a youth leader. It can be a peer, friend, teacher, or anyone else.

Name: _____

Relationship to

you: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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Open-Ended Questions: *Please answer the following questions concisely and completely.*

- 1) Please describe your involvement and experiences with the LGBTQ movement and any other movements or anti-oppression work you have been a part of.*
- 2) Why are you interested in serving on the Iowa Pride Network Youth Council? What would you be able to contribute to the Youth Council?*
- 3) What issues have you seen on your campus that you would be interested in addressing this school year (i.e. slurs & name calling, gender expression, unsupportive administration etc.)?*
- 4) In your opinion, what are the greatest challenges facing GSAs and youth fighting homophobia and transphobia in schools?*
- 5) Share some ways that racism, classism, sexism, and other oppressions have affected you and your activism?*

If not submitting online, please mail all applications to the following address:

IOWA PRIDE NETWORK, 3839 Merle Hay Road, Suite 285,

DES MOINES, IOWA 50310

Applications may also be submitted via email to: rachel@iowapridenetwork.org

or faxed to: 515-276-6396

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High School Youth Council & College Leadership Team Application Certification 2008–2009

I certify that the information submitted within this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand and agree to the responsibilities as detailed herein. I recognize the hours I must commit in order to receive the full benefits of this leadership position and maintain my membership with the council/team. I fully agree with the stated attendance policy and will not miss more than two consecutive meetings/events in a year and give prior notice in the event of my absence. As a LGBTQA leader, I will proudly represent my community, my school, and Iowa Pride Network. I will not support the use of any kind of hate language and promise to respect those around me. I will let the diversity of our differences teach me to become a more open-minded and patient person, rather than one full of hate or indifference. If chosen as a Youth Council or Leadership Team member I accept the position and give my word I will contribute to the team and use my creative ideas and skills to strengthen the council/team and further the queer-youth social justice moment in Iowa.

Signature_____

Date_____

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ORIENTATION MEETING: JUNE 13th 3–5pm in Des Moines

IPN Youth Council & Leadership Team of 08–09

ATTENDANCE REQUIRED!

As part of your commitment to one of Iowa Pride Network’s youth teams, we have estimated the amount of time one would need to devote to become a member. Look over the table carefully and decide whether or not you are responsible and organized enough to submit your application for one of the teams. We understand that occasionally circumstances beyond one’s control can collide with schedules and attendance to events and meetings, none-the-less, we take attendance very seriously just as your school or university would.

Youth Council

Monthly Regional GSA

Coalition Meetings

- Outreach
- Planning & Organizing
- Travel
- Actual Meeting Time

Total: 28 hrs.

Events/Conferences:

- Outreach
- Planning & Organizing
- Travel
- Additional Committee Meetings

Total: 51 hrs.

MAXIMUM HRS REQUIRED: 79

College Leadership Team

Monthly Leadership Team

Meetings & College Coalition

Meetings:

- Outreach
- Planning & Organizing
- Travel
- Actual Meeting Time

Total: 75 hrs.

Events/Conferences:

- Outreach
- Planning & Organizing
- Travel
- Additional Committee Meetings

Total: 51 hrs.

MAXIMUM HRS REQUIRED: 126

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Iowa Pride Network Events 08–09:

- Leadership Training, August
- Queer Youth Summit, January
- Gay–Straight Alliance Day, January
- Student Day at the Capitol, February
- GSA Conference, April

Mission of Iowa Pride Network:

Iowa Pride Network empowers students to fight homophobia and transphobia in high schools and colleges by supporting gay–straight alliances (GSA) clubs and providing leadership opportunities and organizing projects centered on social justice.