



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Youth Diplomats program! We look forward to learning about what inspires, motivates, and moves you to be a global citizen! Here is some general information to help you complete your application.

Eligibility

Current high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors for the 2018-2019 academic year are invited to apply for a place in the Youth Diplomats program. Applications from homeschooled students will be accepted as well as from students attending public, private, and charter high schools. There is no fee to participate in the Youth Diplomats program but space is limited.

Schedule

Youth Diplomats meet once a month from 10:30 to 3:00 PM from November – May. The trip to Washington, D.C. takes place in June. Students are also invited to participate for two weeks in a local exchange which is anticipated to take place in Pensacola with Mexican high school exchange students in mid-July. The anticipated schedule is Nov 17th, Dec 8th, Jan TBA, Feb 2nd, Mar 2nd, Apr 6th, May 11th, June TBA, July TBA, Aug 17th.

The Saturday meetings will be reserved for hands-on learning opportunities categorized by workshops, volunteering, and collaborations, to include a tentative visit with the Youth Ambassadors from Brazil in January 2019. As a Youth Diplomat, you will also have access to speeches, lectures, and networking events with visiting academics, government officials, and other leaders from around the globe.

Youth Diplomats will also be eligible to apply for an experiential-learning visit to Washington, D.C. which will take place in June 2019. The trip will focus on public diplomacy, intercultural learning, and scholarship opportunities. Priority will be given to Youth Diplomats with exceptional engagement and participation in our local events. Please note this trip will require a \$500.00 commitment fee by the student – all other expenses will be covered by the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council. Needs-based scholarships are available.

Selection

If selected for the program, you must commit to attending a minimum of five workshops. In addition, Youth Diplomats must produce one reflection piece in a blog, video, or text format, and engage in the January Brazilian Youth Ambassadors Program.

Instructions

Please submit this completed application to Jena Melançon, GCCDC executive director, by **November 1, 2018 at 11:59 PM CST** via email: jena@gulfcoastdiplomacy.org.

Students will be notified by **November 7th** of their application status.

Current Youth Diplomats who attended at least three of the five 2018 meetings (January – August 2018) do not need to reapply & should instead send an email expressing an interest to participate in the 2018/2019 program.

Application checklist:

_____ Application Form

_____ Three x Short Essays

_____ Student/ Parent/Guardian Signatures

_____ One Letter of Recommendation

APPLICATION FORM

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME _____

AGE _____ GRADE _____ SCHOOL _____

Grade point average _____

HOME ADDRESS (street) _____

(city & zip code) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ Circle the best way to contact you: text / phone / email

II. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. How did you hear about the Youth Diplomats Program?

2. Are you willing to commit to one Saturday a month from November 2018 through May 2019?

3. Please list activities, sports, or clubs you are involved in AT school.

4. Please list activities, sports, or clubs you are involved in OUTSIDE OF school.

5. What honors have you won either in or outside of school?

6. Have you had any experiences with other cultures? If so, please tell about them. Note: you do not have to travel abroad to be exposed to other cultures.

7. What is a SECRET TALENT you possess? (We promise not to tell!)

8. Is there anything else about yourself you would like to share?

III. SHORT ESSAYS. Please choose three of the four essays to answer, using the space provided. Make sure to note which prompt you are answering by writing its number inside the small box within each rectangle.

1. Why do you want to participate in the Youth Diplomats Program? What could you contribute to the program that no one else can?
2. What do you think it means to be a “global citizen”? Describe a global issue that you care about – or would like to learn about – and why?
3. What does the world need more of? Less of? How can you and other young people make it happen? How are you already making it happen?
4. Where in the world would you like to get lost? What could you learn about the place, the people, and yourself? How would you use your experience to help others?

Prompt #

Prompt #

Prompt #

IV. PARENT OR GUARDIAN INFORMATION

PARENT OR GUARDIAN 1

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ Circle the best way to contact you: text / phone / email

PARENT OR GUARDIAN 2

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ Circle the best way to contact you: text / phone / email

V. SIGNATURES OF STUDENT / PARENT / GUARDIAN

I agree that all of the information in this application is true. I agree if selected, I will participate to the best of my abilities in the Young Diplomats activities and requirements as outlined above.

I would like to be considered for a needs-based scholarship for the \$500 commitment towards the Washington, D.C. trip.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

I agree that all of the information in this application is true. I give permission for my student to participate and will support him/her in meeting the program requirements as outlined above.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Thank you for applying to the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council Youth Diplomats!