

# City of Des Moines Youth Advisory Board Application

The Youth Advisory Board serves the Des Moines City Council, providing a voice for youth in city government. The Mission of the City of Des Moines Youth Advisory Board is to improve community through youth involvement.

The Des Moines Youth Advisory board is composed of a representative from each high school in the Des Moines Public School District, Des Moines Christian, and Dowling Catholic, as well as three youth from community organizations such as, but not limited to Creative Visions, Making Connections, Grubb YMCA, Greater Des Moines Youth Leadership Institute, Des Moines Public Library, Sister City Commission, and Partners for Economic Progress.

The board also has adult representatives from the Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines Police Department, Des Moines Park and Recreation Department, The Youth Emergency Services and Shelter/IA Homeless Youth Center, City Manager's Office, YMCA, and the Greater Des Moines Partnership (Chamber of Commerce).

In the past years the board has hosted a youth forum, National Youth Day of Service and Recognition, Youth Yellow Pages, MetroStar 2004, as well as various community service activities. We also attended 2003 National League of Cities Conference, received Potential Youth Leadership Training, attended MINK (leadership camp), and hold annual lock-ins. We are looking to continue these projects and trainings to help provide a voice for youth in the community. Also, in the past few years The Youth Advisory Board received a national technical assistance grant, which provided us with training to deepen the involvement of youth in community affairs.

In order to serve on the Youth Advisory Board the area that you will represent must be in Des Moines. For example, you may live outside of Des Moines, but go to East High School, you may represent East.

## Why Join YAB?

- \*Able to give input into your community
- \*Become a catalyst for change
- \*Get to meet new people
- \*Opportunity to learn more about city government and civic engagement

## Qualifications

- \*Have time to give to the board!
- \*Show leadership, organization through your school, community, family, organization, club, etc...
- \*Entering grade 9-11 as of August 2005

The board is looking for active, energetic youth that seek to make a difference in the Des Moines community. Applicants **MUST** have the time to attend monthly meetings, monthly committee meetings, and help plan various, time intensive year-round activities.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Currently Member of \_\_\_\_\_  
(community organization)

Ethnicity (optional):

- African-American
- Asian
- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Native American
- Other

Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions honestly:

1.) Tell us a little bit about yourself (age, school, interests, activities, etc.).

2.) What youth/volunteer activities have you done in the past? (Any retreats, summits, etc.)

3.) What problems do you feel face youth today?

- 4.) What do you think the City of Des Moines should do to make it a more youth friendly area?
- 5.) Are you willing to devote time to YAB? What other potential conflicts will you have with monthly meetings and committee meetings? (For example, choir, swimming, track, drama, debate)
- 6.) Why do you want to be a member of YAB? How did you hear about the City of Des Moines Youth Advisory Board?

\*\*\*An optional letter of recommendation may be attached with any application. Letters of recommendations may come from any person well acquainted with the applicant. Questions? Contact Kelly Berger at [sugar76@msn.com](mailto:sugar76@msn.com) or 314-7955 Applications may be emailed to [sugar76@msn.com](mailto:sugar76@msn.com) or sent to:  
Attn: Lorna  
City Clerks Office  
PO Box 10326  
Des Moines, IA 50306-0326

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE E-MAILED OR POSTMARKED BY APRIL THE 29<sup>TH</sup> 2005. IF CHOSEN YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE JUNE MEETING WHICH WILL BE JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> FROM 3:30-5:30 IN CITY CHAMBERS. LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE WILL BE MAILED BY MAY 10<sup>TH</sup> ALSO E-MAILED IF GIVEN.**