

## **YFS Mission**

The Young Friends Society of African Diasporan Institutions (YFS) exists to support, serve and promote African Diasporan cultural, historical, economical, educational, and community-based institutions through fundraising, event planning, educational and social programming. YFS also serves as a vehicle to promote networking opportunities and leadership development among its members to further strengthen the communities where these institutions are located. YFS is composed of individuals in their twenties, thirties and forties.

## **So You Want to Be a YFS Leader?**

YFS is committed to growing its mission and vision throughout the African Diaspora. We acknowledge the talented and powerful young leaders who will assist us in supporting our institutions and communities. We invite individuals who believe in our mission and who are capable of expressing our vision to become involved as a YFS Leader.

If you live in a city that can benefit from the energy of YFS and you are interested in taking a leadership position, we would love to add you to our team. In order to ensure that the people who represent YFS share the energy, dedication and vision that we espouse, we ask that you submit a YFS Prospect Proposal and include the following:

- 1) Cover letter
- 2) Resume or curriculum vitae
- 3) Chapter program idea with a two-paragraph description and budget
- 4) Feasibility Study: create a list of potential partner institutions and organizations and assess whether or not they fit under the YFS guidelines. Find out if they already have an established Young auxiliary group. This report should also include any relevant information about competitors or potential partners, other young professional organizations, and a list of their major activities and functions.
- 5) Support: generate a list of potential individuals and organizations who might be interested in joining YFS and compile an email database.
- 6) Start-up funding: Securing start-up funding is critical to the success of the new chapter and the organization. YFS will be able to lend limited financial support to newly initiated chapters, but each chapter is responsible for soliciting its own sponsorship. Funds will be needed for the launch event. Please provide a list of three potential sponsors for the program you are proposing.
- 7) Become a member of YFS.
- 8) Coordinator will hold monthly general body meetings.

**Please submit all materials via email to [info@youngfriendssociety.org](mailto:info@youngfriendssociety.org).**

### **YFS Leader Personality**

- 1) Fabulous! YFS wants leaders who are energetic and fun-loving – those that work hard and play just as hard. We believe in balance and harmony.
- 2) Knowledge seekers: YFS supports cultural and historic institutions. We want individuals who are committed to enlightenment and elevation of cultural consciousness, especially as it relates to African Diasporan history and culture. The African Diaspora is a diverse, multi-dimensional world that offers much to be explored, analyzed and shared with the general population.
- 3) People’s person: YFS leaders love to meet new people and expose them to new opportunities. They are just as comfortable introducing themselves to the CEO of a major corporation as they are walking up to someone new at a concert and inviting them to an event.
- 4) Passionate: We love people who are passionate about what they love – dancing, power brokering, jewelry making, painting, or teaching. YFS leaders strive to reach their unique potential in their everyday pursuits. We believe that when you pursue your passion, you are contributing to the overall well-being of our community and society-at-large.
- 5) On-Point: YFS needs individuals who are organized, who follow-up, and do what they say they are going to do or delegate the responsibility to someone else.
- 6) Down-to-Earth: Some YFS members have professional degrees and some do not. Some YFS members have travelled the world and some have not. YFS is comprised of all kinds of people from diverse backgrounds. We want leaders who can relate to positive people no matter their socio-economic status, political ideologies, spiritual beliefs, educational background, or level of community involvement. We need YFS leaders who can relate to anyone who is positive, interested in institution building, and reaching their unique potential.
- 7) Visionary: Our vision is extra-ordinary. In the spirit of Sankofa, we use the models created for us by our predecessors, such as Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, to create an international movement that will live forever. We want leaders who think beyond the realms of limits and make the impossible a comfortable reality. We live by the motto – “What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?”

## **Responsibilities**

### **Coordinator:**

- Serve as partner institution liaison
- Serve as primary liaison for YFS Headquarters
- Solicit sponsorship for chapter and events
- Coordinate major chapter events (until chapter grows to specific size and then select a member to serve as Event Coordinator)
- Maintain accurate financial records for chapter
- Establish relationships with organizations, businesses, artists, and potential members
- Establish relationships with potential venues

### **Co-Coordinator:**

- Serve as secondary liaison for YFS Headquarters
- Responsible for event P.R./Marketing
- Coordinate members-only events
- Oversee database and listserv
- Assist Coordinator in major functions
- Establish relationships with organizations, businesses, artists, and potential members

### **Marketing Chair:**

- Delegate street team
- Send e-blasts to database
- Manage chapter database
- Manage chapter listserv
- Coordinate the creation and distribution of flyers
- Maintain list of events and businesses for promotions

## **Compensation**

Chapter coordinators, co-coordinators, and marketing reps do not receive financial compensation. However, they make a major contribution to the community and the survival and prosperity of significant institutions. Their lives will be greatly enriched by the experience, and it is also an amazing networking opportunity.