



A Message to Presidents of Lions Clubs in District 24L



Want to provide an opportunity for a youth to participate in a Lions Youth Exchange or Camp next summer? As the Youth Exchange and Camp Chairpersons, we are looking for 3 students to participate in this incredible opportunity. Their sponsorship will be paid for by District 24L. As a Club Leader, you can identify a student to participate. The Club should send a short endorsement for the student and the student you select should send a short letter to YEC Co-Chairs Lion Staci Collins and IPDG Sally Kenevan on why they want to participate, which camp they would like to attend, and what they hope to personally achieve by their participation. A committee will review the student applications and selected applicants will be notified no later than February 11, 2019. Students should use the Youth Camp and Exchange Directory to help them decide which camp they would like to attend. It can be found at <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/serve/other-ways-to-serve/youth/youth-camps-exchange/yce-directory.php>. ***Please not that the updated directory will not be available until November 2018.***

Creating Global Citizens Across Cultures and Around the World

The Youth Camp and Exchange Program (YCE) brings the ideal of global citizenship to life. Each year, this program gives thousands of young people the opportunity to experience life in other cultures and gain new understanding of the world through travel abroad. Unlike some youth exchange programs, YCE does not involve academic study or employment. Instead, participants are encouraged to use this travel opportunity to represent their home countries and share their own culture while learning about and embracing a new one; forging the way to becoming young ambassadors for peace and international understanding.

YCE is composed of various Lions Youth Exchanges and/or Lions Youth Camps arranged by Lions clubs around the world.

- A **Lions Youth Exchange**, or “host family stay,” can be arranged independent of a Lions youth camp in hundreds of countries where there are Lions clubs and typically lasts between four and six weeks.
- Lions Youth Camps** are one or two weeks long and usually include a host family stay before and/or after the camp.

Activities for both exchanges and camps can include visits to places of cultural or natural interest, sporting events, country presentations by participants, guided discussion, and even engagement in local service projects alongside Lions club members.

The students selected to represent District 24L in the Youth Camp and Exchange Program will embark on a life changing adventure that will open their minds and their hearts. They will learn about other cultures and perhaps also polish up their skills in a second language. The Youth Camp and Exchange Program will provide a lifetime of memories that will be shared by the participant for many, many years.

Complete the Lions Youth Exchange Visitor Application found at the following url <http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/ye1401.pdf> and send your student’s completed application packet information no later than February 1, 2019 to Lion Staci Collins, Youth Exchange Co-Chair, 5363 Main Street Stephens City, VA 22655. If you have any questions regarding the application process reach out to Lion Staci Collins @ kalikatattack@gmail.com or IPDG Sally Kenevan @ sallykenevan1108@gmail.com The selection will be made no later than February 11, 2019.