



# 2011 NCYC

## Youth Animator Program Overview

### What is NCYC?

NCYC stands for the National Catholic Youth Conference. NCYC is an exciting, biennial three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. The schedule includes keynote addresses, mega-workshop and workshop sessions addressing a wide variety of topics as well as opportunities for liturgy, reconciliation, prayer, and praise and worship. There are also recreational and special activities such as concerts, exhibits, and the interactive thematic park.

### What is a Youth Animator?

Youth animators are young people who take lead roles in general session programming by leading prayer, song, and movement from the NCYC main stage. All youth selected to be animators will be asked to sing and perform basic dance steps whether or not it is their primary area of ministry.

### How Do I Become an Animator?

Young people interested in being a youth animator must complete the application process by April 15, 2011. The application includes an application form, audition video of five minutes or less, and a letter of reference from a parish, school, or diocesan leader. Applications are not considered complete and will not be considered unless all items are included and the application form is signed by the applicant's parent/guardian AND diocesan NCYC group leader.

### Who is Eligible to be an Animator?

The Youth Animator Program is open to young people who meet the following requirements:

- Must be entering/in high school in fall 2011
- Must be planning to attend/registered for the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis
- Must be open to participating in selected areas of NCYC ministry: song, dance/movement, drama, and oral proclamation of Scripture

### What are the Requirements of an Animator?

In order to be a youth animator, a young person must:

- Attend and participate in all sessions during the Youth Animator Formation Program.
- Practice between the formation program and NCYC.
- Participate in on-site rehearsals, sound checks, and NCYC program.
- Perform all assignments given during the Youth Animator Formation Program.

Applicants do NOT need to be "professionals" or to have had any previous formal training in the areas in which they wish to primarily participate. All that is required is a commitment to do their best and follow the instructions of the Formation Team. All youth selected to be animators will be asked to sing and perform basic dance steps whether or not it is their primary area of ministry.

### Selection Criteria, Process, and Notification

Applications are reviewed by members of the NCYC Program Team, who also act as Youth Animator Formation team leaders. Selection is based on the combination of application essay question responses, audition video, and personal recommendation. Preference in selection will be given to young people from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, then Region 7 (states of Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin), and then the remainder of the country. Approximately 80-100 young people will be accepted for the program. Young people will be informed via email of their application status on/about May 15, 2011. If accepted, notification will include details of where the program is being held and how to pay registration fee along with required permission and release forms.

***Serving Those Who Serve The Young Catholic Church***

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## **Formation Program**

The Youth Animator Formation Program is designed to form young people to take lead roles in general session programming at the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference, especially as prayer leaders. The skills and knowledge gained as Youth Animators can be applied to roles in parishes and schools as well as NCYC. The formation program begins at noon on Friday, July 15, and concludes at 3:00 pm on Sunday, July 17. Participants must be present for the entire program; no late arrivals or early departures. (Youth must be chaperoned in accordance with their diocesan youth protection policies.)

## **Formation Program Fee**

The fee for the Youth Animator Formation Program is \$250 per student. The fee includes the following formation weekend items: double occupancy dorm/retreat-style housing, seven meals (starting with lunch on Friday and concluding with lunch on Sunday), assorted snacks, music, and instruction, as well as complimentary NCYC registration and six meals during NCYC (specific meals are determined after formation program). Animators will also receive a commemorative youth animator t-shirt. Chaperones are asked to pay \$125 to cover the cost of their meals and double occupancy housing during the formation program.

***NOTE: FORMATION PROGRAM FEE WILL BE REFUNDED THROUGH THE ANIMATOR'S DIOCESE FOLLOWING THE 2011 NCYC PROVIDED ANIMATOR HAS PARTICIPATED AS SCHEDULED.***

## **Additional Costs**

Costs associated with the Youth Animator Program, but not included in the Formation Program Fee, include, but are not limited to: travel to/from Indianapolis for July and November, accommodations and meals for early arrivals, transportation to/from stadium and animator's hotel (in November), diocesan NCYC registration package (which usually includes NCYC registration and hotel accommodations for Thursday to Sunday), accommodations for Wednesday, November 16\*, additional meals, and chaperone expenses for NCYC.

\*NFCYM will assist non-local animators with securing hotel accommodations for Wednesday night, but expects animators to stay with their diocesan groups during NCYC.

## **Permissions**

In order to apply to the Youth Animator Program, youth must have the express permission of their parent/guardian AND their diocesan NCYC group leader. If accepted into the program, additional liability and permission forms are required for participation. NFCYM requires group leader permission because participation in the program during NCYC requires early morning arrival and potentially later evening departure which can affect not only the animator, but the whole group. Group leaders need to be aware of this in advance and prepared to make such accommodations.

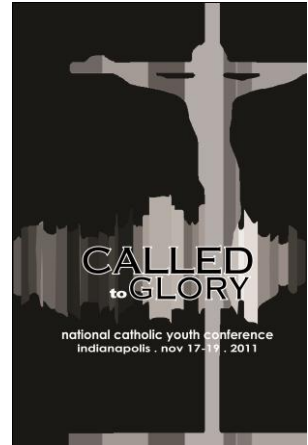
## **Service Hours**

NFCYM estimates that animators volunteer approximately 50 hours of their time to NCYC. Therefore, following NCYC, NFCYM will issue a letter to this effect to all animators who request it.

## **Sponsor**

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) is the sponsor of the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference and its related Animator Program. NFCYM is a nonprofit organization of the affiliated Catholic dioceses and collaborating youth-serving organizations that advocates for a comprehensive approach to youth ministry and the active participation of young people in the church.

# 2011 NCYC Youth Animator Program Application Form



## Instructions

Completed applications must be received no later than **April 15, 2011**. All potential participants must complete and send the following to be considered:

1. **Application form:** Form is below and on following pages. Once complete, scan or save as a PDF file with your name as the file name.
2. **Record an audition video:** The video should be no more than 5 minutes in length and include a sample of you singing, dancing/moving, and/or proclaiming. If you want to be considered for a solo, or as a featured reader/actor or dancer, please include a sample of that chosen ministry. Selections of music, movement, and proclamation are the choice of the applicant. Maximum file size of 2GB in .mov, .wmv, .mp4, or .mpg format. Again, name the file with your name.
3. **Request a letter (or email) of reference** from a diocesan, parish, or school leader. If you have a hard copy of the letter, scan it to a PDF and name it *Ref Letter [Insert Your Name]*. If you are asking the person to email the reference letter ask them to include your name in the subject line.
4. **Email all of the above** to: [NCYCYouthAnimators@gmail.com](mailto:NCYCYouthAnimators@gmail.com). If your email bounces or you do not receive an acknowledgment of receipt within two business days, consider resending using a third-party site such that allows you to send large files, such as [yousendit.com](http://yousendit.com), [dropsend.com](http://dropsend.com), [pando.com](http://pando.com), and [sendthisfile.com](http://sendthisfile.com).

## Personal Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

Nickname (how you wish to be addressed): \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering in fall 2011: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ministerial Information

Please check any and all that apply to you. Even if you are not primarily a singer, please check your vocal range, if known.

- Singer       Lector       Actor       Dancer/Movement  
 Vocal Range:    Soprano       Alto       Tenor       Bass       Unsure

Do you read music?       Yes       No

Do you sing in a school or parish choir?       Yes       No

Are you a cantor?       Yes       No

Do you take/have you taken dance lessons?       Yes       No

Are you/have you been part of a school/parish or private dance troupe?       Yes       No

Are you/have you been part of a drama club/acting troupe?       Yes       No

Do you have any other talents about which you would like us to know?       Yes       No

If "Yes," please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

All participants will be required to participate in a primary area of ministry. Please prioritize the following to indicate your top choice of ministry for NCYC – #1 being first preference and #3 being least preferred.

\_\_\_\_\_ Choir      \_\_\_\_\_ Movement/Dance      \_\_\_\_\_ Proclamation of the Word



4. We would like to know about your faith life and your relationship with God. Please share with us (as much as you are comfortable doing so) some of your spiritual journey.

5. In addition to planning and leading prayer and worship at the National Catholic Youth Conference in November 2011, this formation program is dedicated to empowering young people to make a difference in their parishes, schools, and in their future as ministers and leaders. What do you hope to learn during this experience and what do you hope to bring back to your community?

**Parental/Guardian Acknowledgment**

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I support the application of my child, \_\_\_\_\_, for participation in the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference Youth Animator Formation Program. I understand that acceptance into the program will require, among other things, the payment of a \$250 formation program fee, transportation for my child to Indianapolis for the formation program in July and NCYC in November, NCYC registration through our diocese, and hotel accommodations in Indianapolis for Wednesday, November 16, which will not likely be included in our diocesan NCYC package. Further, I understand that it is my responsibility to coordinate my child's participation with his/her NCYC diocesan group leader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry Acknowledgment**

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge and support the application of \_\_\_\_\_ (“Applicant”) for participation in the 2011 National Catholic Youth Conference Youth Animator Formation Program. I understand that should Applicant be accepted into the program that Applicant will need to arrive in Indianapolis on Wednesday, November 16 (exact time to be determined) and remain until approximately 11:00 pm on Saturday, November 19. I understand Applicant will need to be at the stadium at least 30 minutes prior to doors opening each morning and may need to remain until 30 minutes following the end of each general session. I agree to work with Applicant’s parent/chaperone to coordinate his/her daily participation in the Youth Animator Program with the diocesan delegation’s schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date