



Global Youth Mission

A program sponsored by
WORLD MISSION MINISTRIES

Program Description

What is Global Youth Mission?

Global Youth Mission (GYM) is an international mission immersion experience for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors at one of three sites. Each trip takes place for two weeks during the summer.

Why Participate in Global Youth Mission?

Working side by side with people of other cultures you will discover truths about yourself, your God and your world that will impact you for a lifetime.

Forming a sense of community with those you serve and your travel companions will allow you to grow emotionally and spiritually

Experiencing the life of people economically poor yet culturally rich will bring you awe, wonderment and a sense of true international solidarity

2013 Mission Sites: Descriptions and Dates

PLEASE NOTE: There are three sites for the 2013 cycle of trips: Belize, St. Lucia, and Nicaragua. Trips dates are general timeframes, you must be flexible with the actual dates.

Punta Gorda, Southern Belize (July 13-27)

GYM will be returning to St. Peter Claver Parish this year, as we look to offer an additional English speaking site. The parish has had a long standing twinning relationship with St. Joseph Parish in Wauwatosa. Housing will be in a retreat center and work projects will be coordinated by a Jesuit volunteer.

Archdiocese of Castries, St. Lucia Island (July 13-27)

Our work will be with the parish of Micoud, assisting in providing a morning Vacation Bible School to the youth of the parish. Participants must be prepared to teach simple bible school lessons; therefore, those with some experience in teaching or working with children will be given a priority for this site. You and a partner will be expected to develop lesson plans for 9 days of school. In addition to the planning we always bring school and art supplies to teach and donate to the parish. Involvement in other work projects may take place in the afternoons as well as playing with the children of the village. St. Lucia is English speaking.

Managua, Nicaragua (July 7-21)

The Sisters of St. Agnes, based in Fond du Lac, support missions throughout Central America. In 1988, *Cantera*, a non-profit organization, was formed. *Cantera* provides many programs which have an overall mission of developing strategies that will better the lives of families, especially the lives of children. GYM participants will live in community with the sisters at the Center. Work will include involvement at the Center schools; one of these is a "construction" school in which high school youth learn skills in the building trades. *Cantera* also operates an experimental farm—our youth will work on this project as well. Spanish is useful but not required.

Application and Selection Process

Applications are due by **February 8, 2013**.

To apply:

1. Complete the application form online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GYMApplication2013>
2. Send in a **letter of recommendation** from a parish/school staff member to Cathy Pinter :

Cathy Pinter, Youth Mission Coordinator
3518 North Cramer Street
Shorewood, Wisconsin 53211

Selection Process

Once you have submitted your application, **you will need to schedule an in-person interview** with program leaders:

- Both the youth who is applying and at least one parent must attend these interviews.
- **Available interviews times are as follows:**
 - ◆ Sundays, February 10, 17, and 24th at 11:00am, 11:45am, 12:30pm, 1:15pm, 2:00pm, and 2:45pm.
Location: 229 E Wisconsin Ave, Suite 500, Milwaukee, WI 53202
 - ◆ Wednesdays, February 20 and 27th at 4:00, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, and 7:00 pm.
Location: Divine Savior Holy Angels—4257 North 100th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222
- When you have completed the application, call 414-758-2280 (Monday-Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm) to schedule your appointment. Do not wait to be contacted; you must schedule your appointment.

**Note: Please remember that it is possible your first choice of interview time and date may be booked. Be sure to have a few possible times (that work for the student and at least one parent) when you call.*

Preparation Process

Commitment to this mission experience begins with the preparation meetings. Bonding with fellow travelers is critical for a successful experience.

Once your application has been accepted and a site assigned, you will need to fill out additional information forms and you must attend each of the following:

- ◆ An introductory meeting for both the youth and at least one of his/her parents on Sunday, March 17th, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., at the Sacred Heart Center, 1545 S. Layton Blvd (27th & Greenfield) in Milwaukee, Room 40. (Parking in rear, off Lapham or 29th Street).
- ◆ A one-day retreat to be held on Sunday, May 5, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.. A parent or guardian must attend the prayer service that begins at 3:30 p.m. This will also be at the Sacred Heart Center.
- ◆ At least three additional preparatory meetings will be held with your particular site group. Dates for these will be determined as a group at the Parent Meeting on March 17th (bring your calendars!). Participants need to attend each of these three meetings – attendance at two of the three is mandatory.

Trip Cost and Financial Obligation:

The recommended (and historical) contribution breakdown of funding for the trips is as follows:

- Some money should come directly from the youth/family, but not more than half of the total due
- A significant amount should be raised through individual fund-raising effort by the youth soliciting individual sponsors and/or community group sponsors. (Note: the student must do their own fundraising; GYM does not raise funds for individual students.)
- A contribution from the youth's parish or school may be pursued by the youth—the dollar amount is at the discretion of the institution

Total Cost

Each participant is responsible for raising/paying a minimum total of **\$2,300.00**.

This all-inclusive fee covers air and ground transportation, formation of site teams; the retreat; adult chaperones; program coordination; materials, simple meals/lodging; and a donation to the mission site.

(The actual cost of the program significantly exceeds this amount. Contributions raised beyond the \$2,300.00 are contributed to the operations of the program.)

Payment Due Dates:

A non-refundable down payment of **\$200 is due at the parent/youth meeting on March 17th**.

The remainder can be paid in increments.

The total dollar amount (no exceptions) is due by June 07, 2013.

Other Costs

Personal spending money is the responsibility of the participant. Other expenses may include the cost of a passport, immunizations and supplies, such as mosquito netting, special water bottles, work gloves and appropriate dress.

World Mission Ministries would not like finances to deter participation. A limited amount of financial assistance is available. Contact Cathy Pinter for an application.

Notice to Parents

Each GYM site has work for our groups to do, yet our main goal is to expose participants to the culture, history and environment of each site in order for them to have a rich experience within that country. Mission, from a Catholic Social Teaching perspective, means, "walking in the shoes of the other person" which ultimately is the purpose of GYM. To accomplish this effectively, safety and protection is integral. GYM works with reliable organizations through the Catholic community and has done so for twenty-five years.

Parental approval, involvement and support are critical to the success of the overall program and to your son/daughter's personal experience. From helping to choose the most appropriate site, to helping with fund-raising, to reminding them of their obligations to attend planning meetings, to helping pack the suitcase with appropriate clothing—we, and they, need you engaged throughout this experience. Please be sure you fully understand this commitment before signing their application.

Questions?

Contact Program Coordinator Cathy Pinter at 414-962-8155 or e-mail cmpinter54@gmail.com.