

Junior Youth Conferences

Junior Youth Cons are for young people between the ages of 10 – 14 years

HOW TO Conference Guide

Who: Any congregation in the district may host.

What: A conference of 10 - 14 year old youth

When: A Friday evening to Saturday lunch overnight or a Saturday daytime adventure

Where: At the congregation's meeting house for overnights; day adventures could be anywhere safe!

Why: Faith development of young adolescents flourishes through connections with peers. UU identity is strengthened by learning about the wider community of our movement.

How: Fairly easy! Keep reading ...

THREE MONTHS AHEAD

- 1.) The person who will be responsible steps up and says, "Yes!" to LRED chairperson and District Program Consultant
- 2.) Call the District Office (603-228-8704) and choose a date by coordinating with the district calendar. Note: you **MUST** announce your Junior Youth Conference at least three months ahead of time in order to get advertising into District newsletters, especially *REConnections*, and District packets within two months and into congregational newsletters within one month of your con!
- 3.) Choose a theme for your con - examples from the past include: Bread & Hunger Con where we had a limited fast and baked bread for the local food pantry; LepreCon where we explored many kinds of magic and luck; Hallowe'en Con that featured far too much candy and the right amount of mask-making.

ONE MONTH AHEAD

- 4.) Sign up your local advisors - one for every five of your own Junior Youth.
- 5.) Advertise with your own Junior Youth.
- 6.) The District will send you a \$100 check for supplies.
- 7.) Send the District \$5 per child from your home congregation (this could be paid by

the individual kids, their families, or by RE budget).

8.) Make a rough plan of events. Be sure to include Ingathering, Covenanting, Worship, Action, Fun, Food, Learning, opportunities for Junior Youth Leadership, and sacred Farewell. Aim for friendship and familiarity with this group of relative strangers; save deep sharing exercises for your regular group of young people who know each other well. See the UUA's Deep Fun pages for ideas.

A DAY OR SO BEFORE

9.) Call the District Office for a final head count. Buy supplies.

CON DAY!

10.) Welcome your guests! There will be one adult for every five kids who arrive - or fraction of five!). While your fellow-local-adult gets the young people settled in and going on an activity, let all the other adults review together the Code of Ethics for Adults Working with Children from the *NH/VT District Ethics and Safety Guidelines* (www.nhvt.uua.org/YRUU/resources/ethics), and have every adult sign a copy.

11.) Have a blast! Email the District Program Consultant afterward to report roughly on how it went.

Sample Con Flyer follows - the District Office will insert your Con information!

Hallowe'en Junior Youth Con

UUs ages 10 - 14

You're invited to a howling good time!

Friday, October 20, 6:00 PM (set-up starts at 6:00) TO
Saturday, October 21, 2:00 PM (clean up should be done by 2:00)
at the UU Meeting House in Norwich, VT

Bring: Your costume, Sleeping bag, Toothbrush, Change of clothes
& Good attitude.

Expect: Games, fun, worship, action, food, and an actual bedtime.

Especially bring: At least one adult per carload of kids.

Register: On the District web site www.nhvt.uua.org or at the
District office, nhvt.uu@verizon.net or call 603-228-8704

Cost: \$5 per kid

Directions to the Meeting House:

From Interstate 91 in Vermont, take exit 13. If you are coming from the north, go straight through the light onto Route 5 south. If you are coming from the south, go left under the highway and left at the light onto Route 5 South. About 3 miles on Route 5 South, look for lit-up white sign "UU Congregation of the Upper Valley" in front of white farmhouse on the right. Telephone: 802-649-8828

Questions? E-mail Sparrow F. Alden at LFSALden@alumni.bowdoin.edu
603-359-8426

Registration Form

Junior Youth Con
October 20-21, 2006 in Norwich, VT

Registration Deadline: **Wednesday, October 11**

Cost: \$5.00 per child

Make check payable to:

NH VT District of UU Societies

Name _____
Congregation _____
Your Address _____

Email _____
Phone _____

Please tell us about any dietary restrictions we need to accommodate:

Please tell us about any accessibility issues of which we need to be aware:

Please send registration form and payment to:
NH VT UU District Office, 41-A South State St., Concord, NH 03301

Questions? Email Sparrow Alden at LFSALden@alumni.bowdoin.edu
or call 603-359-8426