

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

13th National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference

May 14-18, 2011 - Abingdon, Virginia

Includes: Transportation, Food and Lodging, Conference Participation, Outdoor Excursions, Introduction to National Trails System Sessions, Youth-led Plenary

Who can apply:

Youths ages 18-25 with an interest in the National Trails System

Submission Deadline:

April 1, 2011

(Applicants will receive a response by April 5, 2011)

To encourage young adults to become more involved in the National Trails System, multiple federal agencies are funding scholarships for young leaders (ages 18-25) to attend the 13th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails. Youth participants will be an active part of the dialogue about outreach and the future of these Trails. Participants will discuss ways to engage youth in the National Trails and present their ideas and perspectives in a special youth-led plenary session in front of the entire conference. Special networking opportunities will allow participants to meet experienced experts in many fields.

Participation in the conference implies a desire to continue involvement with the National Trails System through some combination of trail organization involvement, land/historic resource preservation or management, ecotourism, or youth programming.

Workshops will center around How Trails help build “healthy” communities through economic development, education, natural and cultural resource protection, and human health and fitness. Young adult participants, called “National Trails Apprentices,” will also have access to sessions specifically designed for any conference participant new to elements of the National Trails System, including overviews of the trails of the National Trails System, the history of the National Trails, GIS, land management, trail careers, trail building, and public-private partnerships.

Workshop Tracks

- **Economic Health:** The Demonstrable Value of Trails to Communities
- **Human Health:** Trails as Pathways to Health & Fitness
- **Education Health:** Trails as Living Outdoor Classrooms
- **Environmental Health:** How Trails Preserve & Restore Natural & Cultural Communities

Mobile Workshops

- **Traveling the Overmountain Victory Trail: Partnerships for keeping History Alive.** Travel the Commemorative Motor Route and learn from planners and managers about the unique partnerships that define this historic trail. Stop at Pemberton Oak, Choates Ford, Sycamore Shoals, Shelving Rock, and Hampton Creek Cove to re-live the story of the Overmountain Men.
- **Cycling the Virginia Creeper:** Bike one of America’s most famous National Recreation Trails—the Virginia Creeper. This gorgeous trail traverses through wooded areas, past waterfalls, and along rolling farmland. Enjoy scenic vistas of the Appalachian mountains and learn about how this multi-use trail builds economic value for its local communities.
- **Appalachian Trail Flora, Fauna, and Eco-tourism.** Hike a segment of the famed Appalachian National Scenic Trail while learning about local flora and fauna of the area. Enjoy majestic views from the wide-open White Top and walk through lush, shadowy forests. This hike will stop frequently for species identification and discussion on the ecotourism industry.
- **Exotic Species Inventory on the Appalachian Trail:** Hike a section of the Appalachian Trail while using GPS units, data sheets, and ATC’s trail-wide inventory protocol to document the presence of invasive exotic plants. Learn about the problem of invasive exotic plants along the Appalachian Trail and the techniques used to monitor and control infestations along the A.T.

To learn about the National Trails System or conference details, go to:

www.pnts.org



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13th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails

Abingdon, Virginia ~ May 14- 18, 2011

Application for full youth scholarship to the 12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails. Includes transportation, accommodations, meals, conference content, and mobile workshops.



General Information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Age: _____ Gender: _____
Education:
High School Attended: _____ Year Graduated _____
College/University Attended: _____ Year Graduated _____
Major Area of Study: _____
Phone Number of a Reference (not a family member) _____
Trail of Primary Interest: _____
How did you hear about this scholarship program? _____

Please respond to the following questions; feel free to include photos depicting your involvement.

Please do not send original artwork as application materials will not be returned. All materials submitted will become the property of the Partnership for the National Trails System and may be used in PNTS publications.

- 1. The National Trails System thrives through collaborative effort between people passionate about many fields: wilderness experiences, environmental and cultural preservation, history, education, volunteerism, trail building, community partnerships, geography, mapping, and land management. Do any of these areas have a special significance to you? How have you been involved in any of these general areas?**
- 1. Have you worked/volunteered with a national scenic or historic trail or a local trail? If so, please describe in detail what you have done and how you might like to expand your involvement. If you have not been involved with a trail specifically, please express why you think trails are important and how you think they might play a role in your future.**
- 2. The conference is specifically seeking young leaders who are interested in engaging their communities with trails. Such efforts require leadership, initiative, dedication, and some creativity. Describe your leadership experience in any area and how it could apply to this effort.**

To apply online, send this completed form as an attachment along with your answers to:
PNTSCommunications@gmail.com "PNTS Youth Initiative Scholarship" as the subject.

To apply via mail, send this completed form with any attachments to:

PNTS Youth Initiative Scholarship
Attn: Julia Glad
Partnership for the National Trails System
222 S Hamilton St. #13
Madison, WI 53703

For more information, contact Julia Glad at PNTSCommunications@gmail.com or (414) 617-2525.