



Lions Opportunities for Youth

All Lions youth programs at the club, district and multiple district levels are coordinated under the umbrella of Lions Opportunities for Youth. The mission of Lions Opportunities for Youth is:

To provide the young people of the world with opportunities for achievement, learning, contribution and service, individually and collectively, through sponsorship of activities identified as best practices in the field of youth development.

Lions Opportunities for Youth activities include, but are not limited to: Leo clubs, international youth exchanges and youth camps, International Peace Poster Contest, Lions-Quest, drug awareness, street children program, youth service/volunteering, Scouting, Special Olympics, speaking and essay contests, scholarships, Young Leaders in Service Awards and Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award.

District Lions Opportunities for Youth Guidelines

In October 2000, the International Board of Directors established a district Lions Opportunities for Youth chairperson and committee. Members of the committee include district Leo Club, Youth Exchange, Youth Outreach and Peace Poster Contest chairpersons, in addition to chairpersons of other youth activities sponsored at the district level. It is recommended that the vice district governor and, if applicable, the Leo District President serve on this committee.

Chairperson Duties

- Become familiar with the various youth programs in the district. Resources include the District Leo Club Chairperson's Guide (IAD-45); District Youth Exchange Chairperson's Guide (IAD-50); District Youth Outreach Chairperson's Guide (IAD-75); and District Peace Poster Chairperson's Guide (PR-787). Detailed information is also available from the Youth Programs Department or on the Lions Clubs International Web site - www.lionsclubs.org. To locate information on Youth Programs, click on the "Youth Programs" button on the Lions web site home page. Many youth programs publications are available for downloading and duplicating from the "Resources and Downloads" section on the Lions web site.
- Arrange meetings for youth chairpersons to exchange ideas and coordinate activities.
- Encourage Lions clubs in the district to support youth activities.
- Provide guidance to club level Lions Opportunities for Youth Committees.
- Coordinate the district's Lions Young Ambassadors of the 21st Century Award Program. Implementation guidelines are available in the Young Ambassadors District and Multiple District Guide (IAD-137).
- Promote youth awards available from Lions Clubs International, including Leo of the Year, Leo Club Excellence Award, District Leo Club Chairperson Award, 100% Leo District President Award, Top Ten Youth Exchange Chairperson Award, District Youth Outreach Chairperson Award, New Horizons Award in Youth Outreach, Lions Young Leaders in Service Awards and Lions Young Ambassador Awards.

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