



# Intergenerational Spring Seminar Youth Dean Application

Serve your faith and the UU United Nations Office community in a two-year position (Spring Seminar 2020/2021) planning and leading the Intergenerational Spring Seminar.

## Position Description

The two Spring Seminar Youth Deans are members of the Intergenerational Spring Seminar Planning Committee who help plan and coordinate youth activities for the Spring Seminar and lead the youth staff team during the seminar. They work with the UU United Nations Office staff, an Adult Seminar Dean, Seminar Chaplains, and the rest of the Seminar Planning Committee to ensure that all youth participants have an enriching and inspiring experience at Spring Seminar as, along with other participants, they engage with challenging topics of global concern relating to human rights and social justice at the United Nations. The 2020 Seminar topic is **climate justice**.

The Deans participate in choosing and coordinating programming, selecting additional staff, facilitating meetings, collaborating with other leaders on the Planning Committee, and making Spring Seminar the best it can be. Spring Seminar is a great opportunity for youth from across the country to meet others who are passionate about social justice and learn how to take action on a local and global scale.

The position of Youth Dean is a two-year position. Each new dean will serve alongside a dean from the previous year.

All expenses, including travel, meals, housing, and registration at all seminars, including Spring Seminar 2020 and Spring Seminar 2021, are paid for by the Unitarian Universalist Association. Responsibilities include:

- Planning for and attendance at Spring Seminar 2020 (April 15-18) and Spring Seminar 2021 (April, tbd) in New York City
- Planning meetings by phone/video conference no more than once per week in the months preceding Spring Seminar (approx. Sept-Apr)
- Meeting facilitation and event planning

## PRIMARY ROLE

Take the lead on designing and coordinating youth programming. Work with Adult Dean & Chaplains to set expectations for the Spring Seminar community and help them live into it.

## SPECIFIC TASKS & GOALS

### Deans' Collective Tasks

- Help recruit and select Chaplains and other leaders for the Seminar
- Identify scope of focus for Seminar programming
- Determine overall Seminar schedule & components based on Planning Committee goals
- Assign point people to each event; Serve as point person for planning an event
- Organize and lead orientation and covenanting process for youth & sponsors on Day 1
- Organize and lead evening programming on Days 2 & 3
- Work with Chaplains to lead process for adjusting and renewing community covenant if necessary

## Youth Dean Specific Tasks

- Be open in communicating hopes and concerns to co-Deans & UU-UNO staff
- Outreach to share Seminar announcements with other youth and recruit participants and leaders
- Manage the Spring Seminar to ensure it is going smoothly, taking advantage of support from UU-UNO interns and other volunteers
- Lead bonding activities for youth and set an example for inclusion and respect in community
- Contribute ideas on how to make programming youth-inclusive and engaging
- Participate in resolution of community covenant breaches along with chaplains & UU-UNO staff
  - *(Just senior youth dean)* Participate in resolution of rule breaches along with UU-UNO staff, adult dean, and adult chaplain

## Application Requirements

Applicants must be high school students (grades 9-12) or the equivalent for home-schooled youth) for both years of their term. Experience with multigenerational leadership teams is highly desired.

This event will take a broad and intersectional view of working towards justice – we hope that our Planning Committee will reflect the diversity of identities that exist in our world. People with disabilities, people of color, indigenous people, Hispanic/Latinx, and LGBTQ candidates are encouraged to apply.

Previous attendance at a UU-UNO Intergenerational Spring Seminar is strongly recommended but not required.

## To Apply

Submit a completed application as detailed below. The application includes responses to written questions and an optional video, as well as contact information for two references. Letters of recommendation are not required.

## Youth Dean Applications are due by August 12, 2019

For more information, please contact the UUA United Nations Office at [unitednations@uua.org](mailto:unitednations@uua.org).

## Personal Info

At the top of your application please include the following information:

Full Name	Birth Date
Preferred Name	Year in School for 2019-2020
Mailing Address (including city, state, and zip)	Congregation and District/Region
Phone Number	Identities you claim (gender, race/ethnicity, orientation, ability, etc.)
Email Address	Preferred pronouns

## References

Please submit contact information for two references. One reference should be an adult and the other a youth. At least one of your references should be a Unitarian Universalist. Include their full name, phone number, email address and their relationship to you (minister, religious educator, youth group member, classmate, etc.).

## Written Questions

Provide written responses to the following questions.

1. Why do you want to apply for this position? What skills and experience do you have in leading large groups of youth and adults?
2. In what ways have you been involved in Unitarian Universalism? This could be congregationally, in your district, as part of a camp, leadership opportunities, etc.
3. Describe a situation where you had to work with a team. What went well? What could you have changed or done differently?
4. Tell us about a stressful experience? What did you do to handle that stress?
5. Do you have any experience in participating in trainings about anti-racism, anti-oppression, intercultural competence or diversity? If so, please describe what those concepts mean to you and something you learned from the training. If not, what is your understanding of diversity and working to end oppression?
6. Describe your vision for youth participation at Spring Seminar and your vision for the Youth programming at Spring Seminar 2020/21. Please include why youth participation is important.
7. Describe a positive experience you've had at Spring Seminar. If you've never attended Spring Seminar, please share an experience from another large gathering of UUs.

## Video or Personal Statement

The 2020/2021 Dean Selection Team wants to get to know you personally. You are invited to send a video as part of your application. If you do not have the ability to film and post a video, you are invited to send a personal statement or other creative expression instead. Upload the video to the host of your choice (YouTube, Vimeo, Dropbox, etc.) and send us the link.

Be sure to check your security settings so that it is not publicly viewable to people without the link. Your video will only be watched by the Selection Team.

1. Begin with your name and congregation.
2. Tell us about yourself. Below are some questions you can choose to answer. Please keep your video under three minutes or personal statement under one page.
  - a. Why is Unitarian Universalism meaningful to you? What impact has it had on your life?
  - b. What makes you uniquely you? What are you really good at? What do you want to get better at?
  - c. Share three random facts about yourself.
  - d. If you were to propose a resolution or declaration for the United Nations to adopt, what would it be about? What about your world do you want to change?
  - e. What do you want to make sure we know about you, your experience, your passions, etc.?

## Submission

Submit your application by **August 12, 2019** to [unitednations@uua.org](mailto:unitednations@uua.org) as a .doc or .pdf attachment. Please also provide a link to the video in both the body of your email and in the text attachment. If you are having difficulty submitting your application in this way, please call (617)948-4311 or email [unitednations@uua.org](mailto:unitednations@uua.org) for assistance/alternative arrangements.