

September 18, 2023



To: All Minnesota High School Students

By participating in an upcoming speech contest, you have the opportunity to win an **ALL EXPENSE PAID TRIP** on the Youth Pilgrimage, which is a 14-day trip including tours of New York City, Philadelphia, and other Historical sites. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Grand Lodge of Minnesota will provide this trip for at least one delegate. For more information on the trip and the sponsoring organization: <http://www.ioofpilgrimageforyouth.com> or www.mnoddfellows.org under **Programs > Pilgrimage for Youth >**

All you need to do is complete the Candidate Application and give a 3-minute speech in November. The Jurisdictional Speech Contest will be held on:

Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 1:00 P.M.
Grace United Methodist Church
500 Business 23 West
Paynesville, MN 56362

This speech contest is sponsored by Unity Rebekah Lodge #129 of Paynesville and the Joint Odd Fellow and Rebekah Youth Committee. The topic for the 3 minute speech for each candidate is:

DESCRIBE A CURRENT WORLD AFFAIR

To be eligible for the speech contest, candidates must be 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the tour, with a minimum of one year of high school remaining. Additionally, the tour requires a considerable amount of walking, so the delegates should be in good physical condition. While on the trip, they are required to participate in a speech contest while in New York for a chance to earn a \$2,000 1st place college scholarship, 2nd place \$1,000. The topic of that speech will be given to all delegates upon arrival in New York City. The dates for the tours will be departing on **June 29, 2024** and returning on **July 12, 2024**. Minnesota will send at least one delegate.

If you are interested, please complete the Candidate Application sheet (including the required essay) and **return to Donna Steele at the address below before November 11, 2023**. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Steele:

Pilgrimage for Youth Committee
Donna Steele, Chairperson for Minnesota
4940 360th Ave
Blue Earth, MN 56013
Phone: 507-525-1330
Email: dsteale@bevcomm.net



ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUTH

Pilgrimage for Youth Committee
4940 360th Avenue
Blue Earth, MN 56013
Phone: 507-525-1330 – Email: dstele@bevcomm.net

Candidate Application Form

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____ Grade: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

School: _____ Grade Average: _____

Please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper:

1. Describe a current World Affair (minimum 500-word essay).
2. List topics of discussion that you prepared and publicly presented this year. Include school presentations.
3. Describe your involvement in church, civic and community affairs.
4. Why do you want to participate in this Program?
5. Give three adult references (Principal, Teacher, Pastor, friend) for an evaluation of character and leadership. Please list name, address, telephone number, and email.

Should I be selected as a delegate, I will participate whole heartedly in this Program. Upon my return, I am willing to give reports and/or speeches on what I have seen and experienced.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Waiver: By submitting this application the Minnesota Odd Fellows and Rebekah Youth Committee reserves all rights to the materials submitted on this application, including any pictures, videos, or voice recordings of your speech presentation for the express use by the Odd Fellows and Rebekah's.