Junior Youth of the Year Program

Parent Information

What: Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Club premier recognition program for Club members, promoting service to the Club, community and family, academic success, strong moral character, life goals, and poise and public speaking ability.

Who: Current Pre-teen members of the Boys & Girls Club of Springfield

When: See schedule below for more information

Where: The Boys & Girls Club of Springfield

Why: To better prepare our youth for Youth of the Year and to expose potential candidates to the expectations and work required of the Youth of the Year program.

What do you Get: To represent your Club, to share with others about your Club experience, a certificate/award, a wonderful prize, a free summer membership, valuable experience, and more!

What to do Now: Complete the Junior Youth of the Year Application and turn it in to ***ENTER PERSON*** before ***ENTER DATE.*** Be prepared to use all the knowledge you gained during your Junior Youth of Year program.

**Candidate Expectations**

Each Candidate:

1. Is expected to be present each day that we are conducting interviews, writing essays, and giving speeches.
2. Is expected to act in a manner that best represents the Boys & Girls Club Mission and Values.
3. Is expected to dress professionally.
4. Must complete each stage in the Junior Youth of the Year process to be eligible for the title which includes turning in a parent permission form, two reference letters, an essay telling us why they want to and deserve to be Jr. Youth of the Year, and present an interview and speech.
5. Will receive one on one coaching with Ms. Brandy and receive help from various staff members.
6. Must complete the following forms to compete:
   1. Letter of Intent, Parent Permission, Eligibility
7. Other expectations as required

**Junior Youth of the Year Winner Expectations**

The Junior Youth of the Year is expected to:

1. Represent your Unit and the Boys & Girls Club of Springfield in a manner that represents our Mission and Values.
2. Be a leader and mentor to Boys & Girls Club members.
3. Speak to your Boys & Girls Club regularly regarding the State of the Club.
4. Compete for the Springfield Youth of the Year if candidate meets the requirements and eligibility.
5. Other duties as assigned.

***Schedule of Events***

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| Date | Event | Location | Time | Description |
|  | Workshop, Speech Writing, and Essays |  |  | Candidates will work on their essays, practice their speeches (topic: “Why am I competing for Junior Youth of the Year?”), learn about civic engagement, and get help from staff members. |
|  | Photo Shoot, Essay Due, Interview Practice, Speech Practice |  |  | Each candidate will get their photos taken and will complete and turn in their one page, typed essay answering the question: “What does the Boys & Girls Club mean to me?” Each candidate will go through interview practice and practice delivering their speeches. |
|  | Interviews and Speech |  |  | Each candidate will deliver his or her speech in front of a panel of judges.  Each candidate will participate in a 5 minute interview about his or her experiences with the BGC, moral character, life goals, and values. |
|  | Awards Ceremony |  |  | Each candidate will deliver their memorized speech about the Club, their desire to be YOY, and more. Awards will be given and a winner will be announced. |