



Youth Empowerment Retreat
 “Be the Who”
 March 26-28, 2010



About the Retreat

We want our youth to “be the who”. In this we mean we want our youth to be the designers, the creators, the magicians in the magic of camp. When someone thinks, I wonder “who” thought of this, we want our youth to be that “who”. By empowering and listening to our youth, we not only build a stronger camp, but we also build stronger youth.

Our Goal

Our goal for the retreat is to have youth initiated discussions with adult leadership, for our adult leadership to gain a perspective on youth issues, ideas and concepts of what it means to be a youth in 2010, and to develop a stronger, youth involved program for YMCA Camp Flaming Arrow. Ultimately, we would like to develop a Youth Board for CFA in an effort to strengthen camp and give youth a voice year round.

Why You? Because YOU are a part of the CFA camp family. Ask yourself these questions:

- What did you always wish you could do at camp, but were never offered the opportunity?
- What are the most inspiring, self-awakening experiences you've ever had at camp?
- How would you describe the most powerful experience or activity you've ever had at camp?
- How would you describe the most influential camp staff member you've ever had? What characteristics made him or her that way?
- How do you think young people could help to make camp even better than it is? What leadership could youth provide to make this happen?

Who can attend?

This retreat is designed for campers ages 8 or older, LITs, CITs, staff and parents. Our main focus will be to meet with our youth, the campers, to hear their voice when it comes to activities, programs and ideas to build a stronger camp. We will spend time in discussions, planning, playing and service projects. Parents will spend time relaxing, serving as cabin volunteers along with CFA staff, and in their own planning and discussions sessions. Of course there will be interactive play with your campers! Staff will spend time with all participants but also in separate discussions voicing thoughts and ideas about staffing, training and programming.

Sample Weekend Schedule (subject to change)

Friday, March 26		2:00	Activity time
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Check in, move into cabin, socialize (no meal served)	3:30	Session 2
		5:00	Service Project 2
7:30	Orientation and meeting in Retreat Center	6:30	Cookout Campfire
8:15	Night Hike	9:00-10:00	“Café Hour” social time with games and snacks
9:00-10:00	“Café Hour” social time with games and snacks	10:00	Embers and return to cabins
10:00	Embers and return to cabins	11:00	Lights out
11:00	Lights out		Sunday, March 28
Saturday, March 27		8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30am	Breakfast	9:15	PowWow
9:15	Group Games	9:45	Session 3
9:45	Session 1	11:00	Pack up and clean cabins
11:00	Service Project 1	11:30	Group meeting
12:30 pm	Lunch	Noon	Departure (lunch not served)
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Youth Empowerment Retreat Registration Form

March 26-28, 2010



Please completely fill out this registration and return to YMCA Camp Flaming Arrow, P.O. Box 770 Hunt, TX 78024. I agree to pay \$30 nonrefundable fee per participant at the time of registration. For any questions, problems, or concerns please call the camp office at 830-238-4631. FAX: 830-238-4280

PLEASE PRINT IN INK *Participants must be at least 8 years old to attend.*****

Participant 1 Name: _____ Age _____ DOB _____ Gender _____ \$30

Participant 2 Name: _____ Age _____ DOB _____ Gender _____ \$30

Participant 3 Name: _____ Age _____ DOB _____ Gender _____ \$30

List additional youth participants on the back of form

Parent/Guardian 1 (if participant under 18): _____ Attending retreat? YES NO \$30

Parent/Guardian 2 (if participant under 18): _____ Attending retreat? YES NO \$30

Telephone: _____ Alt. Telephone Number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent / Guardian Email Address (primary source of communication): _____

Emergency Contact name and phone number: _____

Please note this is a working retreat and participants will be asked to work on a service project to beautify camp, have in depth discussion on programming (age appropriate). There will be some play time, but this is a "working weekend" so help your child understand this will be a bit different than summer camp, but this will give them the opportunity to shape their experience for summer.

Arrival: All participants are asked to arrive between 5 and 7:30 pm on Friday, March 26. Dinner will not be served, so please eat prior to arrival. There will be a snack later in the evening, but not substantial enough to replace a hearty meal. If you need to arrive later, just call us to make arrangements.

Departure: The retreat ends at Noon on Sunday, March 28. Please be at camp by 11:30 am for a brief summary of our accomplishment during the weekend. All participants are asked to be picked up no later than Noon. Lunch will not be served.

We would like to donate to the Y Partners scholarship fund to assist children attend camp.

(Circle amount) \$10 \$20 \$30 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other _____ You may enclose the amount now or be billed later.

I hereby apply for the above named person to participate in the YMCA Camp Flaming Arrow Youth Empowerment Retreat. I agree to pay the \$30 non refundable registration fee per person. I understand the terms covering payment of camp dues, and hereby give my approval and consent to the application.

I understand that all release forms must be completed by the parent/guardian of each child attending and that all adults must also complete a release form.

Yes No **Do you authorize medical treatment in case of an emergency for all participants named above?**

Yes No **Do you consent to and authorize the use of photographs and statements for promotional use for all participants named above?**

Amount Due: \$30 x _____ (# of participants) = _____ + _____ (optional donation) = _____ TOTAL

We will send you a confirmation email with more information upon receipt of registration.

Parent / Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

YMCA Mission: To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.