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Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) - Intergenerational Spring Seminar Information Handout for Canadian UU Youth & Youth Advisors

What is the UU-UNO Spring Seminar?

Every April, youth and adults from around the United States, Canada and beyond gather in New York City for an exciting and educational Intergenerational Spring Seminar.

UUs attend the Spring Seminar to:

- Gain a deep understanding on topics of global concern
- Listen to insightful speakers from around the world
- Learn, make friends, have fun, and even sleep!
- Take on important leadership roles in planning and execution
- Find out how to become global activists

All participants learn about a topic of global concern in a fun intergenerational environment. Past seminars have focused on poverty, HIV, human trafficking, peacekeeping, climate change, and empowerment of women. Youth and youth advisors stay at one of the Manhattan-based hostels while learning, connecting with others, organizing and mobilizing. Not only do youth attend the conference, but many also hold important leadership roles in its planning and execution.

Why Youth Should Go

The spring seminar is an opportunity for youth to learn about an issue of global importance in a professional learning environment and with the guidance and wisdom of international experts. Youth form friendships with youth from around North America, and may get to visit the United Nations plaza. Creative activities are integrated with the learning experience.

Topic 2019: Equity in Action - Gender in an Intersecting World

Sessions include understanding the reality of the non-binary nature of gender, the conditioned performance of gender within cultural context, the #MeToo movement which calls to the world to believe and support survivors of sexual violence, confronting internal biases, and working for gender at the intersection of dismantling systems of oppression.

Dates:

Wed. April 10: Travel to NYC (HI New York City Hostel)

April 11-13: Seminar

April 12: Free evening in NYC

Sun. April 13: Travel home



Seminar Costs 2019

| | Before Jan 21 | Jan 22 - Feb 25 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Senior (65+) | \$350 | \$400 |
| Adult (36-64) | \$375 | \$425 |
| Young Adult (18*-35) | \$300 | \$350 |
| Youth (14-18) | \$325 | \$375 |
| Day Rate | \$225 | \$225 |

*18-year-olds who are no longer in high school are welcome to attend the seminar, but must register as Young Adults

Note: Costs are in USD. In addition, service fees may apply. Find a currency converter here ([LINK https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=1&From=USD&To=CAD](https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=1&From=USD&To=CAD))

Registration

Registration is open, and details are here ([LINK https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/register](https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/register)). Participants must register no later than February 25th. Cancellations cannot be refunded after February 25th.

Registration includes programming and some meals - it does NOT cover housing for participants 18+. Youth are all housed in Hostelling International NYC.

Please consider sponsoring an attendee. To donate a scholarship, please contact the UU-UNO at unitednations@uua.org (subject: Spring Seminar Scholarship).

Budget (First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa example) - all in USD

| Item | Cost per participant | Notes |
|--|---|--|
| Registration | \$375 Youth \$350 Young Adult \$425 Adult | |
| Gas share (Ottawa–Syracuse return) | \$25 | 3 vehicles ~4 people per vehicle |
| Train Syracuse–NYC return | ~\$122.00 | Possible discounts 10% AAA (likely CAA) 20% (group rate) 20% (in-state) Subsidy money (see below) can cover ticket purchases. Usually coordinator purchases all tickets |
| Meals | \$100 | 10th lunch & dinner 12th breakfast & dinner |



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | | 13th breakfast, lunch & dinner Meals included: Apr 11th lunch & dinner: Apr 12th lunch |
| Hostel (3 nights) | ~\$150 | |
| Spending & subway money (estimate) | \$100 | Subway fares fare about \$2.75 one-way. The hostel is about 35-40 mins by subway from the UU-UNO building. |
| Gross Cost | ~\$872 (Youth) ~\$847 (Young Adult) ~\$700 (Adult) | |

Deadlines:

- Registration to be completed by **February 25th, 2019**
- Registration, travel and accommodations should be coordinated by a youth advisor

Note: the US-Canada exchange rate ([LINK](https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=1&From=USD&To=CAD)) will affect costs such as Amtrak

Documentation

- **A valid passport is essential**

All forms must be completed one week before departure to ease planning.

UUA Forms

Provided through UUA website.[LINK](https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/register/forms)

<https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/register/forms>

Must be completed online in advance and submitted by March 1 before checking in.

| Form | Who signs |
|---|------------------------------|
| Youth Participant Covenant and Sponsor Responsibilities Acknowledgement | Youth |
| Parent/Guardian Permission Slip | Youth & Parent / Guardian, |
| Adult Participant Covenant and Consent & Release | Young Adults, Adult Advisors |



Congregational Forms (First Ottawa example)

| Form | Who signs |
|---|-------------------|
| Field Trip Permission Form (outside Canada) | Parent / Guardian |
| Volunteer Driver Statement | Driver |

Health Insurance

It is highly recommended that travelers have adequate out-of-country health insurance coverage to avoid out of pocket expenses for any emergency medical needs.

For More Information

Preparing for Seminar [LINK](#)

<https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/preparing-seminar>

FAQs for youth and advisors [LINK](#)

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/faq_youth_sponsors_seminar_2019.pdf

<http://www.uua.org/international/events/seminar/>