

Connecting the Dots

ADULTS COMING TOGETHER TO ENGAGE AND INSPIRE YOUTH



The Minnesota Community Education Association in cooperation with several other youth organizations is pleased to announce the second annual regional youth workers conference, "Connecting the Dots". This exciting event is scheduled at three locations to cover all areas of Minnesota.

This conference will assist youth workers who deal with the daily issues of today's diversified youth population. Whether you are in youth enrichment, recreation, summer camps, after school programs, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA, School Age Care, Scouting, 4-H, coaching or any other paid or volunteer youth position, this workshop is for you. Come to your nearest regional workshop, share your ideas and develop new insight as you enhance the many meaningful programs available for Minnesota's youth.

As an extra added bonus, attend the Pre-conference the night before, and mingle with colleagues as you network and share program ideas throughout the evening. Lodging is available at a special conference rate at all three locations.

The Kick Off presentation in each region is a special session offered through the Search Institute that will include facilitator Nancy Tellet-Royce and high school students in each region who have found their Spark. Spark is a special quality, skill, or interest that lights us up and gives us passion. A Spark comes from inside of us, and when we express it, it gives us joy and energy. It's our very essence, the thing about us that is "good, beautiful, and useful to the world". Sparks is the very popular concept initiated by Peter Benson in his book, *Sparks: How Parents Can Help Ignite the Hidden Strengths of Teens*, that identifies that special moment or activity in a person's life when they found their personal spark and their center.

Don't miss the Pre-Conference activities the evening prior to each Conference.

Each pre-conference will be set up as a networking and program sharing time where all attendees will bring and share the components of a successful idea, event, or activity that has been popular in their own local program. Everyone has success stories. This is a time to share. Each attendee will have an opportunity to explain his or her success story to others. Include any hand-outs, brochures or other materials you are willing to share. An LCD and screen will be available if needed. What you share need not be some award winning activity but just something special that works well in your community and program. Pre-Conference check in is at 6:00 p.m. and sharing activities are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. A \$15 fee includes snacks and refreshments.

Lodging is optional and is secured by each attendee. Lodging information is on the registration form.

Central Region Pre-conference Thursday, April 15, 2010

Best Western Kelly Inn
St. Cloud, MN

South Region Pre-conference Thursday, April 22, 2010

City Center Hotel
(Formerly the Downtown
Holiday Inn)
Mankato, MN

North Region Pre-conference Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Ruttgers Sugar Lake Lodge
Grand Rapids, MN



YOUTH CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS BY LOCATION:

CENTRAL REGION

April 16, 2010

8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LUNCH INCLUDED

- Incorporate Sparks into your Program
- Top Ten Ways to Make Youth Sports Great!
- Youth Connect – HS Students as Mentors
- Developing Teen Leaders from the Inside Out
- Toolkit on Program Quality-Reflection
- Successful Strategies for Youth Workers serving Latino youth and families
- Everyday Leaders: Promoting and Implementing Service Learning into After School Programming
- Student Newspapers: Engaging Students and Promoting Leadership
- Helping Youth Manage Stress
- Ready Made Improvisation Games Trainers Play
- The Whole Brain the Whole Day: The After School Connection
- Hands-On and Minds-On: Building the FUN of Science into your Programs

SOUTH REGION

April 23, 2010

8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LUNCH INCLUDED

- Top Ten Ways to make Youth Sports Great!
- No Course – No Problem: Activities to promote Teambuilding, Trust, Communication and Problem Solving
- Everyday Leaders: Promoting and Implementing Service Learning into after school programming
- Everyone is a Scientist: Start an Afterschool Science Adventure
- Global Jam – music in after school programs
- I'm Game, Are You? – Converting popular TV quiz games for youth
- Challenging Behaviors and Creative Solutions
- Girls on the Run
- Student Newspapers: Engaging Students and Promoting Leadership

NORTH REGION

April 29, 2010

8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LUNCH INCLUDED

- Toolkit on Program Quality-Reflection
- Camp Discovery – Summer Enrichment Camp for At Risk Youth
- Everything you ever wanted to know about AmeriCorps but were afraid to ask
- Catalyst – Mobilizing High School Students to change Nutrition and Phy Ed policy
- Sparks – Search Institute
- Quality Matters
- Learning is Fun with Sport Stacking
- Building Fun After School Programs From That One Cool Idea You Have
- Youth – Adult Partnerships Made FUN!

REGISTER TODAY!! MN-MCEA.ORG

REGISTRATION

Name _____ School District or Organization _____
 Address _____ Phone _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-mail address _____ **Online registration available - mn-mcea.org**

Check site you will be attending:

- St. Cloud – April 15-16, 2010 – Best Western-Kelly Inn
- Mankato – April 22-23, 2010 – City Center Inn/ Downtown
- Grand Rapids – April 28-29, 2010 – Ruttgers Sugar Lake Lodge

Check Fee:

- \$ 89.⁰⁰ Adult registration – Conference only
- \$ 59.⁰⁰ College student registration – Conference only
- \$ 15.⁰⁰ Pre-Conference registration



Room rates:

St. Cloud - Best Western-Kelly Inn \$ 75.⁰⁰
 1-320-253-0606
Mankato - City Center Inn-Downtown \$ 79.⁹⁹
 1-507-345-1234
Grand Rapids - Ruttgers Sugar Lake Lodge .. \$ 95.⁰⁰
 1-800-450-4555 and up