



Pendle Hill Summer 2009 Young Adult Leadership Development Program

June 14-August 1

**A Service Learning and Spiritual Formation Opportunity for Young Adults, ages 18 to 24,
at Pendle Hill, the Quaker Center for Study and Contemplation**



Pendle Hill, founded in 1930 and grounded in the spiritual and social values of the Religious Society of Friends, invites you to join us for seven weeks of experiential learning and community life. Now in its sixteenth year, our Young Adult Leadership Development (YALD) program is an opportunity for young people from diverse backgrounds to explore practices of faith and service. The program integrates spiritual formation, service & witness, and community living, using Quaker language and process. A week in the YALD program includes classes in spiritual exploration, social transformation, and personal formation, two days a week working at a local service organization, and participation in the intergenerational residential community of Pendle Hill. This program seeks to nurture integrated learning and development for young adult leaders and empower through skills and experience building. The internship includes the following components:

Spiritual Formation This program is designed for young adults serious about their spiritual lives. Your personal commitment to your own development will allow you to grow into your gifts and learn from other program participants. A range of classes will be offered, some constituting a core curriculum that all in the program will participate in, as well as optional electives. Course offerings, including a required course in Quakerism, will challenge you to more deeply investigate and incorporate sacred texts, mystical experience, and religious tradition, and work to build a vocabulary of prophetic vision. Each participant will meet with a spiritual nurturer, one-on-one, each week. This is an opportunity to reflect on your experience and journey and receive support in taking the next step. You will be surrounded by other young people and a community of all ages, commonly seeking spiritual renewal and new learning. Pendle Hill is a Quaker, and therefore Christian, community, but has long been open to seekers from a variety of spiritual and religious traditions.

Service Work As a participant, you will intern with a social service organization in the Philadelphia area where you will volunteer two days per week. There are a large number of placement options available, and we will work in conjunction with you and the agencies to find a good match. In the past, placements have included work with: low income children, formerly homeless women in transition, mentally ill adults, senior citizens, the disabled or terminally ill, and segments of the African-American and Latino communities in the Philadelphia area. You will also work at least three times a week on Pendle Hill's beautiful, 23-acre wooded campus, with one of our grounds, hospitality, kitchen, maintenance, or garden teams. As part of your commitment to community life at Pendle Hill you will also be responsible for doing mealtime-related daily jobs and a weekly cleaning job, as all Pendle Hill staff and students do.

Community Living Life at Pendle Hill revolves around shared meals, work, worship, study and play. Living in such a community for seven weeks provides opportunities for intense listening, learning, and deeper knowing, while also challenging us to resolve conflicts and to practice love and respect for others. Pendle Hill's summer community includes staff and staff families, resident students, sojourners (guests), and conference attendees. Participants will have access to many of Pendle Hill's resources including the crafts studio, bookstore, and library. The program will also include experiential education around communication and sustainable living practices. Participants will join in the half-hour daily meeting for worship, considered by many to be the center of community life at Pendle Hill.

Leadership All aspects of participation promote leadership development, and throughout the experience you will be invited to explore the ways in which service and faith inform concepts of leadership. You will also be particularly encouraged to cultivate the leadership skills appropriate to the Quaker tradition. Each part of the program is structured in relation to the others, that we may all recognize the interrelation between service, community, and faith. Come ready to grow. Come ready to learn. Come ready to become an agent of change.



Responsibilities

- Around 30 hours of on-task work per week: 12-15 hours at Pendle Hill (including job assignments and daily jobs) and 16 hours of community service.
- Participation in all scheduled group activities unless you make prior arrangements to be absent. While you will not always be “working,” you should be prepared to commit roughly 50 hours a week to program activities. These include evening activities and some weekend programming. This is not a traditional internship in that you are expected to be a full participant far beyond the traditional 9am to 5pm working day (and the experiences we will share will be far more rewarding and transformational!). All participants will be expected to complete extensive evaluation forms by the end of the program.

Qualifications

- Some familiarity with Quakerism and resonance with Quaker faith and practice
- Positive attitude, flexibility, and commitment to group process
- Welcoming of cross-cultural and interreligious dialogue
- Commitment to service and a willingness to work hard (both physically and emotionally)
- Openness and commitment to talking about and exploring spiritual growth
- Maturity to respect differing viewpoints and backgrounds
- Ability to work intensively with a small group of peers, live in community, and care for oneself

Compensation This program is completely subsidized by Pendle Hill and its supporters as an investment in young leaders, that they may be socially conscious, spiritually seeking, and community-oriented. Pendle Hill will provide room, board, and a small stipend. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation to and from Pendle Hill and for personal expenses (the stipend may cover those). Some interns have received school credit for their participation and we are more than willing to complete paperwork in support of that.

Eligibility Applicants must have graduated from high school and be at least 18 years of age by the start of the program (and no older than 24). Participation is open to those who are not members of the Religious Society of Friends, although, as stated above, we are seeking people with some familiarity with Quakerism and Quaker practice. Applicants from all branches of Quakerism are welcome. Since much of the learning process takes place in our leading one another, we hope to select a diverse group of participants. An ability to do physical labor is a plus.

Application Deadline Please return completed application by March 20, 2009. Application decisions will be finalized by April 15, 2009.

Contact Emma Churchman, Coordinator of Young Adult Leadership Development at Pendle Hill
338 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA 19086-6023
Phone: (610) 566-4507 (worldwide) or (800) 742-3150 (US) ext. 134
Email: EChurchman@pendlehill.org

Please detach and return the following application form, along with your essay, resume, and letter of support.

Personal Reflections

Please reflect on the four topics listed below using the question clusters below to guide your essay or reflections. Touch on **each** of the four main topics, but don't attempt to answer all the questions! You are welcome to write one essay or break down your writing into four separate short essays as you chose. Your written response should not exceed three single-spaced typed pages. You are encouraged to be creative and honest. Most importantly, be yourself. We don't expect you to be able to communicate your entire philosophy on each of these subjects—that would be far too large an endeavor. Rather, we hope to catch a glimpse of some of the ways you've developed insight into these topics. We're also interested in what you hope to learn about these topics through the program.

✧ ***Service and Leadership*** Describe your experience and philosophy of service. What areas of work are most satisfying for you? How do service and leadership relate to each other? What do you feel is distinctive about Quaker models of service and leadership? Who are your personal mentors or role models? Do you have a sense of the way in which you will serve and/or lead in the future?

✧ ***Community*** What does "community" mean to you? What do you consider to be *your* community or communities? What expectations do you have about community life? What strengths and weaknesses do you bring to community living? What cross-cultural experiences have you had with people of different racial, ethnic, national, and/or socio-economic groups? What have you learned from these experiences? How do your own differences and experiences inform your perspective or position within communities?

✧ ***Faith/Spirituality*** Describe your religious background and faith/spiritual journey. Are there experiences, writings, people, or places that have been especially significant for you? What encounters have you had with people whose religious convictions differ from your own, and how do you respond in these situations? If you are Quaker, describe your experience with Friends, indicating what you like most and least about Quakerism. What more would you like to learn about Quaker faith and practice?

✧ ***Individual*** What do you consider to be your gifts, and how do you hope to nurture them during this program? What would you contribute to Pendle Hill, and how would Pendle Hill best meet your needs? What adjectives best describe your personality?

Resume If you have not already sent one, please enclose a resume or curriculum vitae highlighting your work experience (paid or volunteer), religious involvements, education, and extracurricular activities, and any other activity related to your interest in this program.

Letter of Support In preparation for this program, please secure a letter of support from you church or meeting community. Because this is a leadership development program, we would like to see evidence of your relationship in your faith community.

CHECKLIST

Have you included the following items in your application packet?

- Application form
- Reference/recommendation information
- Personal reflections (Essay touching on all 4 topics)
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of Support

Deadline March 20, 2009. We will call you shortly after this date to set up an interview, either by phone or preferably in person.

Address Questions and Completed Applications to:

Emma Churchman, Coordinator of Young Adult Leadership Development

Pendle Hill

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