

**Student must submit application and all supporting materials on Feb. 16, 2009.**

## **Youth Sing Praise Spiritual Reference**

Dear Recommender:

This applicant is seeking acceptance to Youth Sing Praise, a 9-day theater and faith program for students who will perform "Jesus Christ Superstar." The student will work with a professional theatrical staff as well as a cast of 80-90 other teens from across the country in auditioning for, rehearsing (singing, dancing, acting), and performing the show. The student will stay overnight in a retreat center for the duration of the program. In addition, each student will be part of a Small Group led by a youth minister, wherein he/she will be invited to share about personal faith experiences and be expected to listen with respect to others'. She/he will participate in and help lead a wide variety of prayer services and group reflection activities.

Participants must be open to exploring their personal talents, be respectful of adult staff and peers, affirm the gifts of others, be focused and disciplined during long rehearsals, and face a challenging week with maturity.

The student has been asked to submit 2 (two) recommendation forms; one from someone who has witnessed his/her spiritual development and one from someone who has witnessed his/her musical development.

Please complete this form and the attached questionnaire, and return to the student in sealed envelope with your signature on the seal or mail to the address below. All letters of reference will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your honest appraisal of the applicant.

**Applicant's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommender's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** (*including area code*): \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** (*please distinguish between letters and numbers*):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this completed form to:**

**Shrine Youth Ministry: Youth Sing Praise**  
† 442 S. De Mazenod Dr.  
† Belleville, IL 62223

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**Part 1 of 2 - Spiritual development**

**Please complete the following by circling the phrase that best describes the applicant:**

- |  |                   |          |       |                |           |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1. Applicant demonstrates openness to exploring his/her own faith and spirituality.                                | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |
| 2. Applicant can communicate his/her thoughts and beliefs clearly.   | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |
| 3. Applicant is eager to learn more about faith.   | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |
| 4. Applicant is sensitive and respectful of peers who share matters of personal faith or experience.               | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |
| 5. Applicant is able to participate in a serious group discussion by listening, being respectful and taking turns. | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |
| 6. Applicant is tolerant of the differing views and beliefs of others.   | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Not Known |

◆ In your opinion, what are this applicant's outstanding strengths?

◆ In your opinion, what are his/her weaknesses?

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*Please turn to side two to complete.*

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**Part 2 of 2 - General information and impressions about this student**

**Please complete the following by circling the phrase that best describes the applicant:**

7. How well do you know this applicant?  
I interact with this young person (circle one)      Daily      Weekly      Monthly      Occasionally
8. Applicant demonstrates maturity.      Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree      Not Known
9. Applicant is easily stressed out or overwhelmed.      Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree      Not Known
10. Applicant is respectful of adult leaders.      Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree      Not Known
11. Applicant shows respect and patience when interacting with peers.      Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree      Not Known
12. Applicant is self-assured in new situations.      Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree      Not Known

◆ What are the first words that come to mind when describing the applicant?

◆ How do you think the applicant will respond to a busy week full of new relationships and experiences, physically demanding rehearsals and being away from home (parents, friends and/or significant other)?

**Feel free to attach any additional comments on a separate sheet of paper.**

Please initial in the appropriate box. Please mark **ONLY** one.

- I recommend the applicant based on my knowledge of his/her **spiritual development**.
- I recommend the applicant based on my knowledge of his/her **musical development**.
- I **would not** recommend the applicant for this program.

Signature of Recommender: \_\_\_\_\_

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