Know Me, Know My Name
A Youth Leadership Institute:
Students Helping Students

Prior to mailing your registration form, please convene a meeting of the students who will be attending this Institute, and prepare a reply to the questions below. Responses will help us plan the Institute around ideas and experiences of students in your school. Include completed reply with your registration form.

1) Of the chat room issues listed below, what do you think are the three most important issues/struggles in your school?
   • Breaking the Language Barrier
   • Cyber Bullying
   • Gangs/Passes and Cliques
   • I’m Being Tormented!
   • Language of Bias
   • Pressure, Pressure, Pressure: The Middle Years
   • The New Student on the Block
   • The “Right” Stuff

2) What do you wish you could change about your school, related to those issues or struggles?

3) Is there an issue that marginalizes students in your school that has not been identified above? Tell us about that issue.

Directions to Hofstra University: By automobile, Hofstra can be reached easily by main east-west and north-south roads. The Meadowbrook Parkway is the closest, running north and south between the Southern State Parkway and the Northern State Parkway. Exit the Meadowbrook Parkway at M4, Hempstead Turnpike. Proceed west on Hempstead Turnpike to the third traffic light; turn right onto the North Campus (just before the second pedestrian bridge that crosses Hempstead Turnpike). The Student Center is on your left; parking is just beyond the Student Center.
Chat room break-out sessions include:
A. Breaking the Language Barrier – How do limited English-speaking students, and children of limited or non-English-speaking parents, cope in the school setting?
B. Cyber Bullying – What are the experiences of students in computer chat rooms?
C. Gangs/Proms and Sleepovers – How do students know what they are getting into?
D. I'm Being Tormented! – What are the experiences of “bullies” and “bullied” students in schools?
E. Language of Bias – How do students handle stereotypes and prejudices in the school setting?
F. Pressure, Pressure, Pressure: The Middle Years – What are the unique pressures in the middle school years?
G. The New Student on the Block – How do new students fit in at school?
H. The “Right” Stuff – How do students deal with pressures to wear the “right” brands and have the “right” stuff?

Let students’ voices be heard!
Allow students to discuss with their peers the challenging issues and major concerns that seriously impact the daily lives of fellow students.
• Help identify actions that can lead to solutions.
• Share information about what works.

Why a Youth Leadership Institute?
The real issues facing middle school students today must be identified by the students themselves.
• Student voices must be heard.
• Students will take responsibility, if given the opportunity.
• Open, honest exchanges involving students from different schools can lead to empowerment and change.

Agenda:
8 a.m. Registration and Power Breakfast Meetings
Review student assignments for Session I and Session II.
9:00-9:20 a.m. Welcome and Presentation in Auditorium
9:30-10:30 a.m. Chat Room Session I (students only)
10:45-11:45 a.m. Chat Room Session II (students only)

There will be only one separate professional development session for educator-chaperones. Please be prepared to discuss existing programs in your school, related to the session topics.

Noon Luncheon - reconvene as schools
12:45 p.m. School Plan and Debriefing
• Synthesizing and creating school action plans
• Next Steps

1:30 p.m. Gifts and Departure
Register up to 10 students and one chaperone per school. Invite student leaders and at-risk students.

Space is limited; register early!
Please return registration form by November 16, 2006.