



“In the young people of the world, then, lies a reservoir of capacity to transform society waiting to be tapped. And the release of this capacity should be regarded ... as a sacred charge.”

Universal House of Justice

Individuals 12 to 15 years of age can participate in the Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme. To connect with a junior youth group animator please contact your local Bahá'í community.

bahai.org.au
bahai.org

Australian Bahá'í Website
International Bahá'í Website



Junior Youth

Spiritual Empowerment Programme

The Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme

is for young people aged 12 to 15. This period of life is a time of rapid development of spiritual, intellectual, and physical capacities.

The programme instils in junior youth a sense of moral purpose, which helps channel their inherent capacity for justice and altruism into meaningful contributions to their community.

Junior youth groups are guided by a youth role-model, also known as an animator. Groups meet on a regular basis, giving participants a sense of belonging within the community and fostering an environment of mutual support.

“The endurance of youth under arduous conditions, their vitality and vigour, and their ability to adapt themselves to local situations, to meet new challenges, and to impart their warmth and enthusiasm to those they visit ...[are] distinctive qualities ...[through which] they can become the spearhead of any enterprise and the driving force of any undertaking...”

Universal House of Justice

The programme is available to all young people, subject to parental approval. Animators are volunteers who are trained by training institutes to conduct the programme. All animators are certified under the Bahá'í Child Protection Policy, which requires compliance with state and territory child protection laws.

The Programme

The programme comprises activities including arts, drama, sports, and exploration of spiritual concepts by means of the study of stories.

With the help of their animator, the junior youth are empowered to become agents of positive social change by developing:

- The ability to critically analyse the positive and negative social forces that exert an influence on their lives, such as targeted propaganda through media
- The ability to understand and practice spiritual qualities such as love, honesty and humility
- The ability to express themselves with confidence and clarity
- A strong moral framework upon which to base their decisions and actions
- An attitude of service expressed in action within their communities

Continuing the Educational Process

Junior youth who have reached the age of 15 can continue the educational process by entering into the Ruhi Institute's sequence of courses. Participants in these courses continue to build capacity to contribute to individual and collective transformation. One outcome is the ability to animate junior youth groups. They can thereby offer the junior youth programme to the next generation of young people.



“...the programme engages their expanding consciousness in an exploration of reality that helps them to analyse the constructive and destructive forces operating in society and to recognize the influence these forces exert on their thoughts and actions, sharpening their spiritual perception, enhancing their powers of expression and reinforcing moral structures that will serve them throughout their lives.”

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