

Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs

3rd Asia Pacific Uni-Y Regional Conference

18-24, October 2010, Baguio City, Philippines

BAYANIHAN 2010: LIVE, WORK, HELP – Together, We Transform Lives

Programme Information

Introduction

As the annual Asia Pacific Uni-Y Conference takes place this year, it aims to highlight the ability of every individual to increase their awareness as global citizens and to volunteer themselves in any socio-civic responsibilities present within their respective communities.

The theme, **BAYANIHAN 2010: LIVE, WORK, HELP – Together, We Transform Lives** is anchored to the four pillars of personal discipline, service, social responsibility, and leadership. This conference drives us altogether in discovery of the journey to Youth Leadership as we engage ourselves in community volunteer services as a *Bayani* (Hero/Heroine), working together as one *Bayan* (Community). It features various community engagements, our connectedness and solidarity between and among other people with mixed cultures and backgrounds, and a venue for sharing good practices in promotion of *Bayanihan* (spirit of cooperation and volunteerism).

Uni-Ys and YMCA student groups have been a driving force in youth development programmes of the YMCAs. As the theme encompasses two major concepts of Youth Leadership and Youth Volunteerism in *Bayanihan*, this can bring positive social change by fostering respect for diversity, equality and the participation for all. Youth leadership means empowering young people to be able to influence and inspire others to make a difference for a better future. On the other hand, youth volunteerism is the practice of people working with others on a particular cause without expecting anything in return or exchange for their time and services. Working together more than an individual as a source of community strength and power, we inspire others to step forward and we transform lives! We engage the youth in empowering communities, as to, the communities empowering the youth.

This event will also celebrate the achievements and learning from the two preceding Uni-Y conferences in 2008 and 2009, which focused on Poverty Alleviation and Social Enterprise and move forward to some actions that still need to be done.

Objectives

1. To foster understanding of the pressing challenges and issues on the quad-focal thrusts of socio-civic responsibilities on education, health, environment, and peace in several parallel sessions;
2. To value the importance of Youth Leadership and Volunteerism as vital components in addressing aforementioned issues;
3. To open up a space for reflective learning that would be concretised as they formulate their own programs manifesting the spirit of *Bayanihan* within their respective countries.

Methodology

The conference will consist of parallel sessions, workshops, exposure visits and reflective sharing. Participants will be involved in a more intensive experiential learning through community service involvement projects and discussion forums.

Programme Components

a) Input Presentation, Parallel and Plenary Sessions

This will include lectures, discussions, sharing and workshops to provide skills training or to address the issues-in depth. This will urge the participants to develop an inner motivation to become socially responsible in bringing an impact on his/her local and international community. The output presentations will be done at the plenary session.

b) Assembly Tales

This will highlight the celebration of our actions on Poverty Alleviation and Social Enterprise (as an output to the 1st and 2nd Uni-Y Regional Conferences) and existing Uni-Y activities on Volunteerism. Two A1 sized poster slots will be given for each country and will be displayed during the open exhibit. Movements are encouraged to present their stories through various creative mixed media presentations.

c) Community Visits/Exposure

This is a vital tool for the success of the conference to facilitate awareness and appreciation of realities and responses. Being exposed to various volunteer organizations will be supplementary for a greater output that is the end result – a formation of proactive volunteer organizations in our respective countries responding to the needs of the situation. It will be an opportunity to build a stronger sense of *Bayanihan*..

d) Walk for Volunteerism

This is designed to promote volunteerism and advocacy campaign for greater awareness on issues impacting the youth and the society.

e) Key Leaders Meeting

A time of evaluation of Uni-Y works/actions (for the 3 conferences) and an opportunity to shape future initiatives.

f) Fellowship Night (Campfire)

A night of fellowship and of building relationship. Participants will get to know each other through community building activities

Please prepare beforehand a 3-5 minute jingle about your own Uni-Y. One may use his/her own language but the English language is strongly recommended.

g) Cultural and Talents Night

This is a night that will showcase talents coming from different cultures and backgrounds. Each country is requested to prepare a 5-minute presentation their own cultural expressions, e.g. traditional dances, music, songs, games, national dress, and local food/snacks. Awards will be given to outstanding performances.

h) Dawn Promenade

As a part of the YMCA Philippines tradition, a Dawn Promenade will be held to further strengthen the faith of all the participants by staying true to the values of the YMCA movement.

i) Physical Fitness (optional)

Baguio City houses the Philippine Military Academy. A visit aims to keep everyone physically fit in line with the core of the YMCA ~ Mind, BODY and Spirit.

(For those who are interested in joining this activity, please have your name registered upon arrival at the Teachers' Camp. So we could inform the Philippine Military Academy about the necessary arrangements before the day comes. Registration sheet provided on the registration area)

Dates/Venue : **19-24 October 2010**

Teachers' Camp, Baguio City, Philippines

Hosts : YMCA of the City of Baguio/National Council of YMCA of the Philippines

Fees : *Registration:* 50 USD
Participation: 100 USD

(The fees cover all programme expenses, board and lodging from 19-24 October and local transport from Manila to Baguio City and back)

Closing Date for Registration

Duly completed registration form, duly endorsed by the National Council should reach APAY Secretariat by **6 October 2010**.

Contact Persons

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UNI-Y will bind us all as we

LIVE, WORK, and HELP TOGETHER IN TRANSFORMING LIVES!

Never get disheartened, after all, everything will be worth the fight.

See you there! (the Host Committee)