



Network of Sacred Heart Schools

Dear Applicant,

Enclosed is the application packet for the Network Summer Projects. The Projects, now in their 27th year, offer students a unique experience of service and community, which has consistently made a significant impact on the lives of all who have been involved.

In addition to serving the poor and marginalized it is hoped you experience a personal transformation by living in a communal setting, practicing simple living, and maintaining a positive and open attitude.

One of the great benefits of every service project is the opportunity to develop new friendships with students from across the country who come from a variety of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. You will be expected to step outside of your comfort zone to reach out and make certain that everyone feels like an important part of the “project community.” “*Inclusiveness*” is an attitude that you are expected to bring with you, so that all participants have a rich, affirming experience.

At most locations you will sleep on the floor, drink water from the tap as opposed to bottled water, and personally cook and eat nutritious, well-balanced, basic meals with provisions made for vegetarians and some easily accommodated allergies. Severe allergies may be a deterrent to being accepted into a Service Project. In some locations there will be no air conditioning and shower facilities will not be luxurious. You will relinquish your cell phone(s) during the project in order to enter more fully into the service aspect of the project. You will be given opportunities to contact home via periodic moments of blogging or some limited access to the internet.

At times, you will be asked to walk a fair distance with your project leaders, we recommend that you wear comfortable walking shoes. Following each day’s activities there will be time for reflection and group sharing. In solidarity with the poor, this is the time to leave behind the materialism and commercialism of today’s world. Entertainment in the evenings will be simply and generally “at home.”

These simple challenges pale in comparison to the deprivations experienced by millions of our impoverished brothers and sisters in the US and around the world – *that is the whole point!* Please know that there will be minimal time given during the projects for touring or shopping since these activities are not in keeping with the spirit of “simple living.”

Thousands of Sacred Heart students have mastered these situations and maintain fond memories and fine friendships for many years. If you are willing to modify your lifestyle for the designated time period, we encourage you to apply.

Sincerely,
The Network Office

2016-2017 Summer Service Timeline

November

- November 7th: Notification of Accepted Proposals
- November 8th: Posting of Adult and Student Applications

January

- **January 20th: Adult and Student Applications Due**
- January 27: Adult Acceptances Sent Out

February

- February 3rd: Cut-off date for Network Office acceptance of Student Applications
- February 23rd-25th: Network Summer Project Coordinators Seminar
- February 27th: Network Office notifies Head of School & Assistant to Head of the student selections

March

- March 3rd: Network Office Notifies Students & Families of Acceptance and Sends Out Required Paperwork
- March 10th: Coordinators send their own welcome letters to the students and parents (the Network should be copied on all and any emails)

April

- April 7th: All student forms are due back to the Network Office
- April 14th: Network Office invoices the schools for the students
- April 28th: Payment for student due to Network Office

May

- May 5th: Student forms uploaded to the google drive for the project coordinators and staff

2017 Summer Service Projects

Visit www.sofie.org for updates

How Organic School Farms & Gardens Can Help Feed the Planet

Dates: June 5-12, 2017

Location: Sacred Heart Schools – Atherton, CA

Cost: \$350/student

Students: Female & Male entering grades 8-12

Coordinator: Stewart Slafter

Description:

The farm and garden program at Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton will immerse students into our commercial/community agriculture curriculum for one week. During that time participants will plant seed for germination in our greenhouse, transplant seedlings into the garden, tend growing plans, and harvest summer vegetables, fruits and herbs. They will also feed and tend to the daily needs of our chickens, rabbits, ducks, turkeys and goats. Collecting eggs, taking goats out for rotational grazing, milking and performing other farm chores will punctuate our daily schedule.

Although students will be quite busy tending to our farm, we will also all spend large chunks of time preparing harvested produce for our customers. This crucial aspect of the program will involve students in delivering food for our CSA program, our campus farm & garden markets, our school summer camps, the cafeteria for the RSCJ Oakwood Community and a local chapter of the community justice organization, Food Not Bombs. We sell some of the products from our agriculture program and we give others away. Both distribution models are important as a good farm must earn money while building relationships. At our school farm it's 50-50.

In addition to developing outdoor agricultural skills participants in our program will have extensive discussions about the big questions: How will we solve the practical and ethical dilemmas involved in feeding 9 billion people by 2050 and 11 billion people by 2100? Brief articles and short documentaries showcasing journalists, ecologists and food activists will inform our discussion and we will maintain an experiential focus by cooking and eating together. We will prepare most of our meals together using ingredients raised and grown on our campus. Our network program concentrates most directly on the Sacred Heart injunction to teach respect for creation and prepare students to be stewards of the earth's resources. As teachers in an activist-driven experiential program we will also appeal to latent forms of critical consciousness, encourage participants to reflect on Society's values and inspire students to be active, informed, and responsible citizens locally, nationally, and globally.

The majority of our program activities will take place on campus and will not require transportation. We will take four local trips to serve food to homeless residents of San Francisco, stroll through a local farmer's market and visit two university farm and garden programs. On both occasions requiring transportation program coordinators will drive participants to our destination in school vans.

The success of our program depends on collegiality, an eager willingness to work and a desire to investigate complicated questions. Students from the middle- and high-school level are encouraged to apply and will need to be prepared for a program that absorbs most of their attention from the morning until the evening. Our program runs from June 5 through June 12. Teaching staff includes men and women and is made up of experienced Sacred Heart educators who have been managing our farm for years. We will provide lots of good food, cozy comforts and laughs. However, our primary goal is to offer students an opportunity to think about how food is currently produced around the globe and how it will need to be produced in the future if we want to live in a peaceful, humane, life-affirming world.

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center

Dates: June 11-18, 2017

Location: St. Madeleine Sophie's Center - El Cajon, CA (San Diego Area)

Cost: \$400/student

Students: Female entering grades 9-12

Coordinator: Christine Crandall

Description:

The volunteers at St. Madeleine Sophie Center, assist the consumers (developmentally disabled adults) in various work capacities that include computers, janitorial, arts and crafts, supported employment, exercising, music, yoga, and gardening. The consumers look forward to the volunteers' companionship during the day. The coming of the Sacred Heart kids is a big highlight of their year. The consumers at St. Madeleine's Sophie Center are developmentally disabled adults who either need to learn skills to be placed in the workforce or to develop social skills so they can live comfortably in their communities. During our week at the Center, students will be working with the consumers in different capacities. They may help in the garden or computer lab. Some may go into the community with the supported employment team or just help the consumers learn the social skills of shopping at a department store. Students also have the opportunity of visiting the Sophie Gallery where beautiful artwork and crafts are produced by the consumers. A big part of spending time with the consumers is just sitting and listening, being a friend, sharing a meal. The consumers love the attention!

Healthy Waters & Coastal Restoration

Dates: June 18-23, 2017

Location: The Duchesne House - New Orleans, LA

Cost: \$250/student

Students: Female entering grades 9-12

Coordinator: Maureen Little, RSCJ

Description:

Rooted in Goal 1, 3 and 4 of the "Goals and Criteria," the purpose of the Healthy Waters Network Summer Service project is to provide students opportunities to become stewards of the earth's waters and natural environment. Coastal Louisiana provides the perfect landscape for students to learn the effects of large scale natural disasters and manmade ecosystems for all life, and how with the help, it can restore itself. Most importantly, students will work together to clean waterways, create solutions for current problems (e.g., Rebuilding reefs) and help educate local communities about how they can become stewards of our natural resources.

Food Deserts in the Land of Plenty

Dates: June 18-24, 2017

Location: Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart - Chicago, IL

Cost: \$300/student

Students: Female entering grades 9-12

Coordinator: Susan M. Cruz

Description:

Almost 400,000 people in the city of Chicago currently lack access to fresh and healthy food, they reside in what is known as a "food desert." Students will explore the reality, causes and methods of combating urban food deserts. Students will begin the trip by volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository and a local food pantry, in order to evaluate the quality of food available to those in need. Students will shop in neighborhoods designated as food deserts to experience the challenge that so many face. With the guidance of experts from Food Desert Action and City Farm, students will examine the negative health effects of food deserts and the unjust policy issues that affect our food systems. In the final days of our trip, we will explore and support innovative solutions to food deserts through: volunteering at urban farms, touring The Plant (a vertical farm and food business incubator), and spending time on Fresh Moves - a Chicago transit bus which has been converted to a traveling fresh food market! Each day will include reflections on the equity of the food system and how it can be challenged.

#ProjectNAO

Dates: June 21-29, 2017

Location: Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart – Miami, FL

Cost: \$350/student

Students: Female entering grades 9-12

Coordinator: Matt Jansen

Description:

In support of Goals 3 & 5, Network students will begin their initial experience by learning the features and limits of the NAO Humanoid robots and the ease with which the system can be used to introduce and integrate technology for marginalized, inner-city children. Network students will be introduced to programming processes and they will apply their skills and practice with NAO software. After mastering the introductory sessions, the Network students will combine sound, music and their creative abilities to develop an entertaining performance to share with visiting children from Coconut Grove Cares / The Barnyard, Breakthrough Miami, Honey Shine Mentoring Program, and Centro Mater Child Care Services. This will, in turn, empower the children to create their own presentations under the guidance of the Network students. Network students will also visit the University of Miami and they will experience a taste of Miami's multiculturalism at evening meals.

Juvenile Justice

Dates: June 24 – July 1, 2017

Location: Sacred Heart Schools, Sheridan Rd – Chicago, IL

Cost: \$350/student

Students: Female entering grades 10-12 (grade 9 with strong recommendations)

Coordinator: Jane Steinfelds

Description:

The Juvenile Justice Summer Project will provide high school students from various states a perspective of the experience of a teenager in our nation's criminal justice system. In an urban setting and an ethnically diverse population, the students will consider the context in which many of our nation's teen-agers live. Students will look at different support structures that work to help young people who are at risk for a variety of reasons (prevention programs, alternative high schools, etc.) Students will learn about how the State of Illinois makes decisions about the prosecution of juvenile offenders as well as particular case-studies. Students will visit juvenile court, Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliations, Kolbe House, and a peer jury program in the Chicago Public School system. Students will meet with advocates for juvenile justice, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, juvenile probation officers, social workers, attorneys, educators, teenagers who have been in the justice system, college students researching juvenile justice, and others who have a role in the judicial system, in the communities, and in the lives of the young people.

Helping Hungry Hearts

Dates: June 25-29, 2017

Location: Academy of the Sacred Heart - Bloomfield Hills, MI

Cost: \$200/student

Student: Female & Male entering grades 7-8

Coordinator: Lynette Nixon

Description:

Helping Hungry Hearts will focus on learning about hunger in the Detroit Metro area, and volunteering at organizations to help alleviate the hunger. We will spend time touring and volunteering at organizations such as Gleaner's Food Bank in Detroit. We will serve dinner at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit or Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac, and visit Crossroads of Michigan in Detroit where we will prepare and distribute lunch to children. One morning will be spent harvesting food from a community garden which donates its crops to local food banks. On their final night, students will celebrate their hard work with an excursion to the Adventure Park of West Bloomfield, a local adventure park with a ropes and obstacle course. Evenings will include time for hunger education, journaling, prayer services, and reflection sharing among group members which will incorporate all five Goals. All transportation will be by bus booked through accredited companies ASH utilizes year-round.

Clown Academy

Dates: July 2-15, 2017

Location: Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart – Princeton, NJ

Cost: \$700/student

Students: Female & Male entering grades 10-12

Coordinator: Thomas von Oehsen

Description:

Clown Academy is a two-week Network Summer Service Project for students entering grades 9 through 12. Clown Academy will take place in Trenton, New Jersey and include 10 students from Trenton. The first two days students will form a troupe and practice their circus skills and rehearse their clown routines. The Clown Academy troupe will visit hospitals, nursing homes, and other community centers in downtown Trenton and perform their circus skills and clown skits. The Clown Academy students will also have the opportunity to teach their skills by giving workshops to children from the Boys and Girls Club and Catholic Youth Organization. An outgoing to NYC and Philadelphia will be included.

Turned Out: Modern Day Slavery – Humans Not For Sale

Dates: July 9-14, 2017

Location: Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart – Houston, TX

Cost: \$300/student

Students: Female entering grades 11-12

Coordinators: Sara Molina & Stephanie Gomez

Description:

This project is a learning experience that will focus on human trafficking; with an emphasis on sex trafficking. The students will meet with various members of law enforcement, universities, and non-profit organizations to learn what human trafficking is, how it happens, how to prevent it, and how to assist survivors once rescued. The students will create and present a power point or video presentation at the conclusion of the project to share with their school communities to show what they learned.

Rebuild NOLA

Dates: July 29-August 4, 2017

Location: Duchesne House – New Orleans, LA

Cost: \$300/student

Students: Female & Male entering grades 11-12

Coordinator: Christina Angelle

Description:

The Rosary will once again partner with Duchesne House for Volunteers, run by RSCJ and work to educate participants on the importance of coastal restoration and hurricane recovery. Students will work with St. Bernard Project (SBP) whose aim is to rebuild homes damages from Hurricane Katrina. Again, the focus includes the importance of vanishing wetlands. Students will work on damaged homes, often painting and doing sheetrock work. Students will work for four full work days and participate in wetlands tour/planting. Duchesne House provides morning and evening reflection and prayer. All five goals are highlighted in this service project.

Network Summer Service Project

Student Application

Application Process

Please make sure you touch base with your Summer Service Contact at your school. This person will assist you in the completion and submission of your application. If you do not know who this individual is, please contact the Network Office at 202-636-9300 or email NSHSadmin@sofie.org

The Summer Service Contact at your school will collect all the individual pieces of the application (application form, personal narrative, adult reference form waiver, and both adult references) for you and send it as a complete package to the Network Office (NSHSadmin@sofie.org).

When the application package is complete, it should be saved as **2017SummerServiceApplication-StudentLastName** and emailed to NSHSadmin@sofie.org

Student Information Form

NAME: _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

SCHOOL, CITY, STATE _____

CURRENT GRADE _____ WILL YOU BE RETURNING TO A NETWORK SCHOOL IN THE FALL (YES / NO) _____

EMAIL (personal) _____ (school) _____

TEL() _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE/GENDER _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

WORK EMAIL: _____

HOME EMAIL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

CELL: _____

WORK EMAIL: _____

HOME EMAIL: _____

Acceptances, updates, and other pertinent information will be sent via email to parents and students. Keeping this in mind, please provide a **current and up-to-date** email and phone number for the Network Office.

Project Preference 1:

Project Preference 2 :

YOU MUST INDICATE A 1ST CHOICE AND A DIFFERENT 2ND CHOICE. IF YOU CHOOSE ONLY ONE PROJECT PUT THE SAME PROJECT FOR BOTH CHOICES, YOUR APPLICATION IS INCOMPLETE AND WILL NOT HAVE PRIORITY PROCESSING.

1. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES; List any offices held, teams, clubs, etc. of which you have been a part.

TEAMS/CLUBS, etc.

DESCRIBE

YOUR ROLE

DATES FROM - TO

- a _____
- b _____
- c _____
- d _____

2. LIST SOME OF YOUR LEISURE ACTIVITIES AND HOBBIES.

3. LIST YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH CHILDREN. INCLUDE THE NATURE OF THESE EXPERIENCES AND THE AGES OF THE CHILDREN.

4. WHAT HAS MADE THE GREATEST IMPRESSION ON YOU IN YOUR SACRED HEART EDUCATION THUS FAR?

5. LIST THE NAMES AND AGES OF YOUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS.

6. WHY DO YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SERVICE PROGRAM?

7. WHAT SPECIAL INTERESTS AND TALENTS DO YOU BRING TO THIS PROJECT?

8. IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED TO THE PROJECT, ARE YOU WILLING TO LIVE A SIMPLE LIFE STYLE FOR THE DURATION OF THE PROJECT? WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

9. WHAT IS ONE THING IN THIS WORLD THAT PREOCCUPIES AND CONCERNS YOU ENOUGH TO WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

10. ARE YOU APPLYING TO ANY OTHER PROGRAMS THAT MIGHT CONFLICT WITH YOUR ATTENDING A NETWORK SUMMER SERVICE PROJECT? (SUMMER SCHOOL, CAMP, etc.)

11. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY APPLIED TO A NETWORK SERVICE PROJECT? _____ YES/NO _____

IF SO WHICH ONE?

PROJECT NAME

YEAR

12. DO YOU HAVE ANY ALLERGIES OR OTHER HEALTH CONDITIONS WHICH WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOUR FULL PARTICIPATION AND SAFETY?

Personal Narrative

For the "personal narrative," please answer the following questions:

1. Who and/or what has influenced you the most?
2. Describe a significant disappointment/failure and how you handled it.
3. What challenges you?
4. What are your expectations of the work/service experience? ...Of the community living experience?
5. How do you cope with stressful situations?
6. Describe a community service experience you have had and why it is significant to you.
7. How do you personally practice inclusivity within your school and community?

Adult Reference Waiver

Please indicate the **two** people to whom you have given the Adult Reference for Student Form. They should know you well, be in a position to judge your general character and motivation, and be able to evaluate your qualification for the Network Project at this time. You should have a reference from a Dean of Students **OR** Division Head **AND** Director of Community Service **OR** Campus Minister **OR** Advisor.

| Name | Job Title/Position | Email/Phone |
|------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. | | |
| 2. | | |

Waiver

I waive my right to view the required adult reference forms as completed.

Student signature

Date

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

School Signatures

Signature: Head of Middle School

Date

Signature: Head of School

Date

Signature: School's Contact for Network Service Projects

Date

Adult Reference for Student Form

FOR THE STUDENT APPLICANT: *I waive my right of access to this reference form.*

Printed Student Name:

Student Signature & Date:

FOR THE ADULT FILLING OUT THE REFERENCE FORM:

The Network Service Project seeks mature, well-balanced students motivated to helping the poor and marginalized. The volunteers live simply and inclusively in community along with the adult staff for a one to two-week period of time. Further information on the program is available through your school's contact for Network Service Projects or on <http://sofie.org/resources/social-justice/network-summer-service>

We would like you to help us to get to know the applicant as we consider her/his application for acceptance into this program. Please return this form to the Summer Service Contact/Coordinator at your school **no later than January 20th** to assist in the completion of the student's application process. For more information on who the Summer Service Contact/Coordinator is at your school, please contact the Network Office (NSHAdmin@sofie.org or call 202-636-9300).

- What is your relationship to the applicant? How long have you known her/him?
- Describe how the applicant works and interacts with others.
- How have you seen the applicant assume a leadership role or display personal initiative? Explain.
- How does the applicant appear to cope in stressful situations?
- What would you identify as the applicant's outstanding strengths? Weaknesses? How well does the applicant know her/his strengths and weaknesses?
- What are 3 adjectives that BEST describe the applicant?

- How would you describe the applicant’s motivation for applying to the Network Service Project?
- Are you aware of any health issues that may affect this student’s full participation in a Network Service Project? Explain.

Student Characteristics: Please rate the applicant in the following areas 1 = “WEAK” and 5 = “OUTSTANDING”

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Sense of Humor | • Emotional Stability |
| • Dependability | • Ability to Handle Stress |
| • Initiative | • Ability to Work Under Pressure |
| • Common Sense | • Ability to Adapt to New Situations |
| • Effective Use of Time | • Creativity and Imagination |
| • Enthusiasm | • Ability to Adapt to Unstructured Situations |
| • Ability to Express Feelings | • Ability to Work Through Conflict |
| • Ability to Work Alone | • Ability to Live with Others |
| • Ability to Get Along with Others | • Openness to Direction in Work |
| • Ability to Work with Others | • Verbal Communication Skills |

Please include any additional comments or information you think the Network Office might benefit from knowing about the student here.

Signature:

Printed Name:

Date: