



## U.S. Embassy Georgetown

100 Young and Duke Streets, Kingston, Georgetown

### 2019 Youth Ambassadors Program: Caribbean

#### Student Application

##### **Program Description:**

The 2018 Youth Ambassadors Program (YAP) with the Caribbean includes a three-week U.S.-based exchange under the theme: **“Youth and Social Transformation”** for approximately 42 participants from six countries in the Caribbean region. In Guyana, we will select 6 students and 1 adult mentor to participate in the program **from August 8 – 26, 2019.**

The Youth Ambassadors Program provides youths with the tools and resources they need to realize their potential as leaders and to be protagonists in their own development. Through the YAP, a lifetime of service begins with a three-week exchange. Participants develop their leadership skills, strengthen their ability to serve their communities, and build mutual understanding in the Western Hemisphere. In addition to developing leadership skills, participants will learn about a variety of issues during activities and programming that will take place in Brattleboro, Vermont, three host cities in the United States., and Washington, D.C.

The exchange will be intensive, and highly interactive. Students and educators will participate in workshops, community service activities, team building exercises, meetings with community leaders, and leadership development exercises, and they will live with American families.

**While the exchange is three weeks in length, the program extends for a year.** Upon their return home, the students will apply what they have learned to implement projects that serve needs in their communities under the guidance of their mentor. **The follow-on community projects will take place from September 2019 to June 2020.**

If selected to participate, applicants **must** partake in **ALL** program activities in the United States and home country, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities. Participants must remain with the program throughout the entire exchange. Personal travel within the United States during the program is not permitted.

Exchange visitors are required to travel on a specific visa, known as the J-1 visa. As an exchange visitor (J-1) visa holder, you will be subjected to the two-year home-country physical presence requirement. You are required to fulfill this requirement by returning to your home country for a cumulative total period of at least two years.

We seek energetic and committed applicants who are ready to develop their skills in order to be effective leaders in their schools and communities.

**Instructions for completing this application:** Please read carefully and fill out the application answering all questions completely. The information you provide on this application will provide the basis for selecting participants for this program. You must answer all the questions and attach all the required documentation for your application to be considered. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.** Semi-finalists will be contacted for an in-person or telephone interview.

**Student applicants must:**

- ✓ Be a Guyanese citizen residing in Guyana (applicants with dual U.S. citizenship/permanent residency will not be considered).
- ✓ Be at least 15 and not more than 18 years old during the program
- ✓ Attend a Public High School and have at least one academic year remaining after August 2019
- ✓ Have a strong academic record
- ✓ Have a strong command of English
- ✓ Possess leadership potential and commitment to community service
- ✓ Demonstrate good initiative, communication skills, and a positive attitude
- ✓ Have the ability to work in a team and be respectful of the opinions of others
- ✓ Have little or no previous exposure to the U.S.
- ✓ Must fulfill a two-year home-country physical presence requirement.

Please submit the following **required documentation**, along with your application:

- A copy of your birth certificate (**please do not send your original birth certificate**)
- A copy of your passport bio-data page
- A copy of your most recent school record for 2017 – 2018
- Two references

\* Note: Please do not send the original documents. All documentation sent to the U.S. Embassy will not be returned.

**Applications are due by 3:00 pm April 2, 2019**

**Applications should be submitted to:**

Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown

**OR**

Via E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:**

The Public Affairs Section  
U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
100 Young and Duke Streets  
Kingston, Georgetown  
E-mail: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

**There is no application fee.** The United States Government will pay for all costs to participate in the program, including international travel to and from the United States, orientations, visa fees, and the exchange activities in the United States, including meals and lodging.

*Employees of U.S. Embassy Georgetown, U.S. Government agencies and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate in this program.*

# Youth Ambassadors Program: Caribbean

## Student Application

Please type your responses CLEARLY

Paste or staple a recent passport-size photograph here

### Personal Information (Please print your name EXACTLY as it appears on your passport)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last (Family)

First

Middle

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Communication will be done by mainly via email. Please list an email that you check on a regular basis.**

Date of Birth (Month/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

City and Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Country of citizenship or permanent legal residence \_\_\_\_\_

Gender [ ] Male [ ] Female

It is the goal of the Youth Ambassadors Team and its partners to ensure the full and equal participation of everybody regardless of gender, race, sexual preference, disability or otherwise. It is our policy to make necessary, reasonable accommodations to ensure that our programs are accessible.

Would you require a reasonable accommodation, as a result of a physical or mental impairment, to enable you to access the full benefit of this program? If not applicable, write N/A. (open-ended question).

### Parent/Guardian Information

**\*\*Your parent or guardian must sign the application at the end\*\***

#### Parent/Guardian 1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to you \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from yours) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

#### Parent/Guardian 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to you \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from yours) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ First Name Middle Name Last Name

Relation to you: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(please include street name and number, city)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Passport Information

Do you have a valid passport?  Yes  No

**If yes, please attached a copy of your passport bio data page**

Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Issuing Country \_\_\_\_\_

### Travel Information

Have you ever traveled to the United States or another country?  Yes  No

If yes, please provide a brief description of dates, length and nature of your stay(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any plans to migrate in the next two years for study or permanent residence?

Yes  No

### Education and Activities

**\*\*Please attach your most recent academic record\*\***

Name of school currently attending \_\_\_\_\_

School address \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Year you will graduate: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic subjects you are most interested in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you speak any other languages?  Yes  No Language \_\_\_\_\_

Please list all extracurricular activities you currently take part in (school clubs, sports teams, youth organizations, community service activities, leisure time activities), how long you have been involved with each, any awards or honors. Use additional space as needed.

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**SHORT ESSAYS:** Please respond to the following short essay questions in one paragraph

Why do you want to participate in this program, and what will you contribute if you are chosen?

Please identify a specific issue or problem affecting your school, neighborhood, or community and tell us what might you do to help resolve this problem as part of your community project after the exchange?

Using two examples, describe how you are an effective leader in your school or community.

Describe an experience working with a group of diverse people. What did you learn from that experience?

During this exchange, participants will act as ambassadors for their countries. What qualities do you have that would help you fulfill this role?

How can others benefit from your participation on this program?

An exciting aspect of these programs is the home stay component in the USA. Participants will stay with a host family who will share their home and time with participants without compensation. What attributes do you have that would make you a good guest for a host family? What would you share with an U.S. family about your life and country?

### Participant Agreement/Parental Consent

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen to participate, I will participate in **ALL** program activities in the United States and Guyana, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities. I also understand that I must remain with the program throughout the entire exchange and that personal travel within the United States during the program is not permitted.

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Applicant Signature

Date

I permit my child to apply for and, if selected, to participate in this program (**ALL** program activities in the United States and Guyana, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities).

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Parent/Guardian signature(s)

Date

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Parent/Guardian signature(s)

Date

**MEDIA CONSENT:** Please sign the following statement to give permissions for photos and videos

I consent to the use and/or reproduction of all photographs and video taken of, or including me, by the Department of State, including any agency, client, publication or other organization or institution in whole or in part, in all forms and media, for distribution to the general public for the purposes of publicity and promotion. I further consent to the reproduction or use of the photographs/information with or without my name, and consent that the Department of State may seek copyright of the photographs/information in their name.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature(s) Date

# YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM: Caribbean

## Reference 1 of 2

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For the Applicant:** Please submit two references with your application. The forms should be from a teacher or other adult outside of your family who knows you well. You may submit this form with your application OR your referee can return the signed and completed form to:

Public Affairs Section  
 U.S. Embassy Georgetown  
 100 Young and Duke Streets  
 Kingston, Georgetown  
**OR** Via E-mail to: [PDGeorge@state.gov](mailto:PDGeorge@state.gov)

**For the person providing reference:** The student named above is applying to take part in the Youth Ambassadors Program, a three-week exchange program in the United States followed by community project implementation at home. The selected students will be in a challenging academic environment and intensive leadership training. To succeed, the participants must be highly motivated, and be able to adjust to living and working with people of different social and cultural backgrounds. We value your honest assessment of the applicant in helping us select the most appropriate participants. If you would like to add additional comments, we encourage you to do so. Your answers will remain confidential.

This recommendation must be typed, or if it is written by hand it must be legible. The recommendations must be submitted with your complete application to be eligible. **RECOMMENDATIONS ARRIVING LATE MAY DISQUALIFY AN APPLICATION. (Applications are due by 3:00 pm April 2, 2019)**

Please indicate your opinion of this applicant’s ability to meet the challenges of this program

- \_\_\_\_\_ I strongly recommend this student
- \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend this student
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have minor reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have major reservations about recommending this applicant
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do not recommend this student

Please indicate your assessment of this applicant in the following areas:

|   | Excellent | Good | Normal | Poor | Not Sure |
|---|-----------|------|--------|------|----------|
| Consideration and respect for others and their perspectives       |           |      |        |      |          |
| Good judgment and common sense                                    |           |      |        |      |          |
| Potential to be a leader  |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to follow orders with a good attitude                     |           |      |        |      |          |
| Initiative  |           |      |        |      |          |
| Sense of responsibility   |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to engage with new situations                             |           |      |        |      |          |
| Intellectual curiosity and imagination                            |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to express oneself clearly                                |           |      |        |      |          |
| Participation in the community and in extra-curricular activities |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to complete and continue projects                         |           |      |        |      |          |
| Sense of humor  |           |      |        |      |          |



How long, and in what context or capacity, have you known this applicant?

What are the strong characteristics of this applicant?

Please describe the applicant's behavior or attitude with respect to authority, peer relationships, responsibility, and work activities.

Do you think the applicant would adapt well to unfamiliar environments and new situations? Why or why not?

Additional comments:

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM: Caribbean

## Reference 2 of 2

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**For the Applicant:** Please submit two references with your application. The forms should be from a teacher or other adult outside of your family who knows you well. You may submit this form with your application OR your reference can return the signed and completed form to:

Public Affairs Section  
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| Potential to be a leader  |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to follow orders with a good attitude                     |           |      |        |      |          |
| Initiative  |           |      |        |      |          |
| Sense of responsibility   |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to engage with new situations                             |           |      |        |      |          |
| Intellectual curiosity and imagination                            |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to express oneself clearly                                |           |      |        |      |          |
| Participation in the community and in extra-curricular activities |           |      |        |      |          |
| Ability to complete and continue projects                         |           |      |        |      |          |
| Sense of humor  |           |      |        |      |          |

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Additional comments:

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_