



ANYTOWN

A SOCIAL JUSTICE, COMMUNITY BUILDING AND LEADERSHIP
EXPERIENCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH WHO WANT TO
CHANGE THE WORLD!
WWW.NCCJ.ORG

Camp ANYTOWN is a nationally recognized and award winning diversity, leadership, and social justice program for youth ages 15-18. Founded in 1957, ANYTOWN is designed to educate, liberate, and empower youth participants (delegates) to become effective, responsible leaders and community builders.

For six days, a diverse group of 60 high school students come together to build a community based on respect, understanding, and inclusivity. Through interactive games, workshops, and discussions Delegates along with 25 staff members explore the thoughts, opinions and experiences we all share on topics like prejudice, discrimination, and hate. Through this dialogue, the Delegates are taken on a journey to create a model for an ideal community in which members not just tolerate, but celebrate each other's differences. It is the goal of ANYTOWN to equip the Delegates with the knowledge and skills to transform their home communities into places where individual differences are seen as positive tools that bring people together instead of keeping them apart.

Since 1999, Camp ANYTOWN of NCCJ-CT/WMA has empowered thousands of youth and adults to create inclusive, just and prejudice-free schools and communities. It is our hope that with this application you will join our ever expanding family of people who dare to imagine and work for a better world.

How to Apply:

- Complete all pages of the enclosed application form and return it to NCCJ Office by May 1st for priority acceptance, and **June 1st, 2012 for final selection**. Please answer all questions in as much detail as possible. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
- Enclose a non-refundable \$25 registration fee with your application, payable to the "NCCJ of CT/WMA" with the applicants name on the "memo" line. Registration Fee waivers are granted by request only. Please see FAQ section below or contact the Director of Youth Programs at 860-683-1039 to discuss financial aid. Applicants are encouraged to apply regardless of their financial status.

Mail Applications to: ANYTOWN

1095 Day Hill Road, Ste 100

Windsor, CT 06095

Phone: 860-683-1039 ext 102

Fax: 860-683-1409

Frequently Asked Questions:

Where is the camp located? Camp ANYTOWN is located on the beautiful campsite of Camp Becket-Chimney in Becket, Massachusetts. Each participant is placed in a cabin of 8 same-gender delegates and 2 peer counselors. These cabins are equipped with bunk beds, skylights, and big windows to enjoy the scenery from. Meals are taken at the Camp's cafeteria.

What can I do to make my application stand out? Be honest! As much as we value the professional and extra-curricular activities that applicants bring to the table, we are more interested in learning about who you are, why you want to come to ANYTOWN, what you hope to get out of it, and what you want to do with your learning after camp.

Is the information that I provide on the application confidential? Yes. Only the Director of Youth Programs and the NCCJ Youth Intern look at the applications.

How will I be notified if I have been accepted into the program or not? You will receive a letter in the mail notifying you of your acceptance by June 1st, 2012 for priority selection or by July 1st, 2012 for final selection.

How do I know what to bring to camp? If you have been accepted into the program, you will receive an "Acceptance Packet" in the mail that will include additional forms, a list of suggested things to bring, bus schedule, and other information.

What kind of food will we get? Camp Becket Chimney has a full-service kitchen that prepares delicious meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Each meal includes vegetarian options. Please let us know if you have any food allergies or other specifications so that we can let the chef know. You may bring snacks and other foods for yourself. (For fun, each cabin is supplied with an endless amount of snacks!)

I'm nervous to come by myself. Will I be able to make friends? Absolutely yes! Most of the delegates come alone or only barely "knowing" other students from their school or community. As soon as you arrive, you will find yourself immersed in one the friendliest, welcoming, warm, and accepting community. Our staff will do all they can, which basically means they'll be themselves, to make you feel comfortable. We do lots of activities as soon as you arrive to get you acquainted with the staff and each other. Each delegate will be randomly placed in a "cabin" with other people staffed by two counselors and one adult advisor. This cabin will become your family within a couple of days.

Can I leave camp early? No. We expect you to attend for the entire duration of the program. If you cannot make the entire camp please do not apply and consider applying when you are able to make the entire camp.

When do I have to pay the ANYTOWN fees by? Application fee of \$25 is due WITH your application. The remaining balance of \$475 must be mailed in within two weeks of receiving your acceptance packet. Financial Aid is available to ALL applicants who need it. Youth are encouraged to apply regardless of their financial status.

I need financial aid, what do I do? NCCJ works hard to raise enough money so that we do not turn away any accepted applicant from the ANYTOWN program. Youth are encouraged to apply regardless of their financial need. Please ensure that you fill out the financial aid questions in this application carefully. You will receive notice of your financial aid award with your acceptance packet. Accepted applicants receive either full or partial scholarships based on need, quality of application, and funds available in our scholarship fund.

Will my application and camp fees be refunded to me if I am not accepted in the program? NCCJ will refund any fees paid for any applicant that is not accepted into the program. NCCJ will not refund the \$25 application fee unless there is a prior arrangement made with our office. The application fees go toward our scholarship fund to support youth who cannot afford to pay to attend ANYTOWN.

What if I have been accepted and I cannot attend? Please let us know as soon as you know that you will not be able to attend so that we may allow the next person on our waiting list to take your spot. Each spot at ANYTOWN is valuable in cost and experience, so we plan to have each spot filled. Your camp fee minus the registration fee will be returned if you let us know by July 15, 2012. After this deadline, we will only be able to return 50% of your camp fee.

I just graduated high school this year can I still apply? One of the primary goals of ANYTOWN is to have the delegates return to their high schools and take actions steps to bring positive changes to their communities. With this said, depending on available spots and if you are 18 years of age or younger, we do accept applications from graduated high school students. Please send in your application and we will inform you of our decision.

I am not enrolled in any high school, can I still apply? Yes, as long as you're between the ages of 15-18 you are eligible to apply.

How can parents learn more about ANYTOWN? NCCJ will host a Parent Information Session on May 11th and July 19th at 5:30 PM at the NCCJ office. Please do not bring your children (ANYTOWN Delegates) as the information we provide will give away some secrets of the experience. 😊 Please RSVP by calling 860-683-1039.

I have more questions, what do I do? Just call us, our office staff will be happy to answer your questions. 860-683-1039 or by email akandel@nccj.org.

Dates to Remember:

Application Deadlines: Priority Deadline: May 1st, 2012 Final Deadline: June 1st, 2012 (Due to the high volume of applications, late applications will not be considered except if you have prior approval from NCCJ.) Applicants are encouraged to apply early as the available spots fill up very quickly.

Camp Dates: August 19th – 24th, 2012 (Delegates are expected to stay for the entire duration of camp. If you cannot attend for the entire week, please do not send your application.)

Delegate Acceptance Notification by June 1st for Priority Selection and July 1st for Final selection.

Parent Orientation Dates: May 11th and June 15th, 2012 at 5:30 PM at NCCJ Office at 1095 Day Hill Road, Windsor, CT. RSVP by calling 860-683-1039 or E-mail akandel@nccj.org

Camp Fees: Through our grants and fund-raising efforts we are able to reduce the camp cost for each participant down to \$500 from \$1,500. NCCJ must receive the entire camp fee of \$500 within two weeks of receiving the acceptance packet. If you would like to set up a payment plan, please contact Director of Youth Programs to discuss.

Financial Aid: Full and Partial scholarships are available based on financial need. Please remember to fill out the financial aid form to be considered for a scholarship. NCCJ provides 80% of ANYTOWN applicants financial, so please do not let the camp fees hold you back from applying!

Applicants are encouraged to apply regardless of their financial situation. NCCJ will work with your family to cover the fees that you cannot.



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nccj

Camp ANYTOWN

SUNDAY AUGUST 19, 2012 – FRIDAY AUGUST 24, 2012

Please type or print legibly.

Name: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Number: _____

(city) (state) (zip)

Birthday: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

School you Attend (if any): _____

Place of Birth: _____

Grade you will be in Next Year:

Have you ever applied to attend ANYTOWN before? _____

9th 10th 11th 12th GED

Have you ever participated in the BRIDGES Program? If yes, when and where? _____

T-Shirt Size:

S M L XL XXL

How did you learn about ANYTOWN? _____

To ensure diversity at ANYTOWN, please check any of the following that apply to you.

It is important that you check at least one box in each section. *This information is confidential and will not be disclosed or used for any other purposes.*

a) RACE (please check all that apply)

- African American/Black
- Asian/Asian American
- Biracial/Multiracial
- Please specify: _____
- Indigenous/American Indian/Native American Please specify: _____
- Jewish
- Latino (a)/Hispanic/Chicano (a)
- Middle Eastern
- Pacific Islander
- South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Tibetan, etc.)
- White, Caucasian, European American
- Self-identified: _____

d) SEXUAL ORIENTATION (Please check all that apply)

- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Pansexual
- Questioning
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Queer
- Self-identified: _____

e) DISABILITIES

- Yes No
- If yes please list: _____

f) SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM:

- Free Reduced Not Applicable

b) RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION

Please use the line provided to list specific religion

- Agnostic
- Atheist
- Baha'
- Buddhist
- Christian _____
- Hindu: _____
- Islam: _____
- Jewish: _____
- Native American: _____
- Pagan/Wiccan/Druid
- Sikhism
- Self-identified: _____

G) SOCIOECONOMIC CLASS

YEARLY INCOME:

- Below \$15,000
- \$15,000-\$29,999
- \$30,000-\$49,999
- \$50,000-\$74,999
- \$75,000-\$99,999
- \$100,000-\$199,000
- Above \$200,000

c) GENDER IDENTITY

- Woman Man
- Transgender/Gender Variant
- Self-identified: _____

h) IF YOU WERE AT HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF MAGIC, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HOUSES WOULD YOU WANT TO BE SORTED INTO?

- Gryffindor Slytherin Hufflepuff Ravenclaw

Why? _____

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS BELOW ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION. THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS. BE HONEST AND PROVIDE AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE.

1. Please describe a time when you have experienced or witnessed prejudice, discrimination, or some other "ism" (for example: racism, sexism, ageism, etc.). Provide detail including how you felt, what you saw, what you did, and how that event made you see yourself or others in a new light.
2. Please tell us about a time when you have taken some sort of action to stop prejudice, discrimination, or some other form of "ism." If you have not taken an action, describe a time when you wish you had taken an action and why you did not.
3. What would you like to get out of your ANYTOWN experience? Why?
4. What can you (skills, knowledge, talents, etc.) add to the ANYTOWN community? Why should you be chosen to attend?
5. Please talk about one or two social issues that interest you or you want to know more about. Describe the issue, and tell us why it matters to you. If applicable, also tell us what you have done so far to learn more about it and/or take action on it.
6. Have you ever attended any other programs that address diversity, leadership, and youth empowerment? Please share what your experience was like.

We ask that each applicant obtain an edorsement from a teacher, counselor, principal, mentor, supervisor, clergy, or another non-relative adult.

By endorsing this student, I agree that she/he is physically, emotionally, and mentally capable of participating in ANYTOWN which challenges participants to discuss their experiences and attitudes about diversity, prejudice, and social change.

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Position/Organization: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

By signing below I certify that all information in this application is true and correct:

Applicants Name: _____

Applicants Signature: _____ Date: _____

By signing below I give permission for the young person named above to apply as a delegate for the NCCJ ANYTOWN 2012 Program:

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Guardians Signature: _____ Date: _____

CAMP FEES AND FINANCIAL AID

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **CHECK ONE OF THE PAYMENT OPTIONS.**
2. **INCLUDE YOUR \$25 NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION REGISTRATION FEE WITH THIS APPLICATION IF YOU ARE NOT APPLYING FOR FULL SCHOLARSHIP. APPLICATIONS WITHOUT FEE WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNLESS YOU ARE APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID.**
3. **IF APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID, PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK THE AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL BEING REQUESTED IN THE "PAYMENT OPTIONS" SECTION BELOW.**

The total cost of Camp ANYTOWN is \$1,500 per delegate. NCCJ of CT/WMA works hard to raise funds and solicit donations so that we can reduce that cost to \$500 per delegate. We recognize that many families cannot afford this fee, and therefore provide full and partial scholarships for any applicant who needs assistance in paying the fee. We are proud of the fact that we are able to offer ANYTOWN at low to no cost to many of our applicants to keep this program accessible to all interested youth. These scholarships are based on need. There are limited numbers of scholarships available so apply early to ensure we have the funds to cover your costs.

If your scholarship request is granted, the portion that comes from your personal financial obligation should be paid no later than three weeks prior to ANYTOWN (August 1st, 2012). We are happy to make semi-monthly payment arrangements as well as setting up other payment plans. You will be notified of the scholarship amount with your acceptance packet.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations made prior to July 15th, 2012 will receive a full refund minus the application fee of \$25. Cancellations made after July 15th, 2012 will receive a 50% refund of their paid fee. And, cancellations after August 1st, 2012 will receive no refunds.

Payment Options: Please check one of the following boxes (Make checks payable to "NCCJ of CT/WMA")

- I am not applying for financial aid. I have enclosed \$500 with this application.
- I am not applying for financial aid. I have enclosed \$ _____, and will pay the remaining balance by July 15th, 2012.
- I am applying for partial scholarship (less than \$475). I have enclosed my \$25 registration fee plus \$ _____, and am requesting financial assistance for \$ _____.
- I am applying for full scholarship (a total of \$500). I have enclosed a "Letter of Intent" with this application.
- I am being sponsored by my school/organization/agency. The payment from that agency is enclosed.
- I am being sponsored by my school/organization/agency. They will mail payment no later than July 15th, 2012.

Sponsor Information: Must be completed if applicant is being sponsored by a school or agency.

Sponsoring School, Agency, Organization: _____

Address: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Title/Position: _____

Donations: NCCJ works hard to be able to offer ANYTOWN as well as other youth programs at low to no cost to all of it's participants. This is only possible by the generation donations we receive from community members and leaders who support our work and envision a future free of prejudice and bigotry. If you would like to donate to the NCCJ of CT/WMA in addition to the applicants ANYTOWN fee, please check a box below. Donations are tax deductible.

- In addition to paying for the applicants ANYTOWN fee, I would like to contribute to the ANYTOWN Scholarship Fund to provide assistance for a young person who might not be able to attend otherwise. I have enclosed \$ _____.
- I will send an additional check at a later date, please invoice me for \$ _____.