

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**2017 Seongnam City International Youth Conference**

Aurora Sister Cities International invites Aurora and metro-area youth and young adults ages 15-20 to apply to participate in a five-day leadership conference in Seongnam City, South Korea.

Through its sister city partnership with the city of Seongnam, South Korea, Aurora Sister Cities International has been invited to send up to 10 youth and young adults to the 2nd Annual Seongnam City International Youth Conference.

From October 26 to 30, 2017, the city of Seongnam, South Korea, will host 100 students from China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the United States at the Korean Ministry of Education’s Institute for International Education in Seongnam City.

The goal of this year’s conference titled “Do Dream: Opportunities and Challenges for Youth Entering the Fourth Industrial Revolution” is to convene international youth to discuss and develop career success strategies in a rapidly changing technological landscape.

The conference is the second of its kind in Seongnam City and takes place biennially in order to provide a platform for youth from around the world to collaborate with Korean youth to consider and respond to relevant global issues.

This conference is sure to offer Aurora and other metro-area youth the unique opportunity to travel around the world to hear global perspectives on the challenges and rewards of globalization while also gaining exposure to future career pathways in the globalized marketplace.

All expenses, including travel insurance, are covered for participants while in-country. Participants will be required to cover airfare, though some scholarships for travel are available based on need and merit.

**Interested applicants should submit the attached application with typed responses to Karlyn K. Shorb, CEO, Aurora Sister Cities International at** **kshorb@auroragov.org** **or 720-309-9415. Applications are due by August 18, 2017.**

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**APPLICATION**

**2017 Seongnam City International Youth Conference**

**Conference Title**

*Do Dream: Opportunities and Challenges for Youth Entering the “Fourth Industrial Revolution”*

**Conference Description**

We are entering an age which many in the private sector refer to as “The Fourth Industrial Revolution.” During this technological revolution, robots and automation are expected to replace people in manufacturing, distribution, transportation, and even many service jobs. While exceptional and inevitable, these rapid and transformative technological advances are causing much uncertainty for youth who are in the process of choosing college and career paths.

During the four-day conference, youth from six countries will gather in Seongnam City, South Korea, to learn about future opportunities and challenges of the “Fourth Industrial Revolution”; share ideas and global perspectives on the changing global landscape; network; and engage in interactive simulations of “future jobs.” Ultimately, youth from all six countries will come together to create a “Common Action Statement” in response to the rapidly changing technological landscape.

Youth participants will also represent their countries and communities through a sharing of culture and traditions such as music, costume, poetry or other activities.

Participants will spend one day touring Seongnam City to learn about the culture and traditions of Korea. The conference website is <https://sonku7777.wixsite.com/seongnam>.

**Conference Dates**

The conference will take place from October 26 – 30, 2017.

**Participant Travel Dates**

Participants should be prepared and available to travel beginning October 23 through October 31.

**Participant Travel Information and Participation Requirements**

Participants will travel to Seongnam City with a group of 6-10 students and 2 chaperones. Participants are required to travel together with the group on the same date and flight. Participants are expected to remain with the group at all times and participate in all scheduled conference activities, including a cultural show.

Participants will be required to join 5 pre-travel orientation sessions to prepare for the trip. The workshops will cover the culture and history of Korea, cross-cultural communication and “culture shock” issues, grooming and clothing requirements, and emergency preparedness. During the preparatory sessions, students will also be collaborating to prepare a performance for “culture day.”

**Trip Expenses**

The Seongnam City Youth Foundation will cover all participant expenses (lodging, transportation, meals) while in-country during the four-day period. Participants will be required to cover the cost of airfare to Korea and should be prepared to cover the cost of incidentals (passport purchase, airport purchases, souvenirs and other personal shopping, purchase of voltage converters and adaptors, etc.).

Once candidate selection has been determined and all candidates have been notified, ASCI will need to purchase group airfare and undertake other preparatory activities as soon as possible. As such, we will need to collect the airfare fee by September 9 along with all releases, a copy of your passport and proof of vaccinations.

Some scholarships will be available based on demonstrated merit and need. Please contact Karlyn Shorb, ASCI CEO at kshorb@auroragov.org or 720-309-9415 for more information.

**Application Deadline**

Pages 1-3 of the application (personal information, questions, essay questions) must be completed and returned to Aurora Sister Cities International by August 18, 2017.

\*\*\*Please note that all essay question responses must be typewritten.

**Candidate Interview Dates/ Times**

Aurora Sister Cities International will review all applications and select the final candidates for interviews by Sunday, August 20, 2017. Applicants will be contacted by Monday, August 21, to schedule an interview during one of the dates below.

1. Wednesday, August 23, 4pm-7pm

2. Thursday, August 24, 4pm-7pm

\*\*Candidates will be notified of their selection by Wednesday, August 30, via email.

**Pre-conference/ Pre-travel Workshop Dates**

1. Saturday, September 9, 2017

2. Saturday, September 23, 2017

3. Saturday, October 7, 2017

4. Saturday, October 14, 2017

5. Saturday, October 21, 2017

\*\*Participants should notify ASCI staff of any Saturday morning scheduling challenges ASAP.

Please fill out the following information and answer the following questions.

**Personal Information**

Last Name:

First Name:

Date of Birth:

Gender (Male/Female/ Other):

GPA:

School:

Grade:

Student Phone Number:

Student Email Address:

Parent/ Guardian Email:

Parent/ Guardian Phone Number:

Address: Unit: City: State: Zip:

**Are you/is the candidate available to travel between the dates of October 23 and October 31, 2017?** (Note that this is during the school year and that you will have to work with your school and class instructors to make up class work).

YES\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you available the following dates to attend pre-conference/ pre-travel workshops and preparatory sessions?** (answering NO will not affect eligibility).

Saturday, September 9 YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, September 23 YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, October 7 YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, October 14 YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, October 21 YES \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The pre-conference workshop sessions are texting free, selfie free and cell phone free. Do you agree to not use your cell phones and other talk/texting devices during that time?**

YES\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ Participant or Guardian Initials\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you own a passport?**

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_ Country of Issue:

\*\*If you do not currently own a passport, you will need to acquire one immediately. Please contact Karlyn Shorb, CEO of Aurora Sister Cities International at kshorb@auroragov.org or 720-309-9415 if you need information about or assistance in acquiring a passport.

**What was the longest duration you traveled inside *or* outside of the United States? Please explain.**

[TYPE HERE]

**Are you interested in being considered as an alternate if you are not selected to be part of the delegation?** (Your response will not impact your eligibility).

YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_

**Essay Questions.** Please limit each response to 100 words.

**1. Why are you interested in joining the youth delegation to Korea?**

[TYPE HERE]

**2. Tell us your current educational and career aspirations.**

[TYPE HERE]

**3.** **Can you describe a situation in which you felt it necessary to be an ambassador for your community? For example, has there been a situation in which you needed to clarify erroneous stereotypes or assumptions about your home culture? How did you handle that situation?**

[TYPE HERE]

**4. How do you believe your experience in South Korea will help you gain an appreciation for how the world is interconnected on all levels (environmental, cultural, and political)?**

[TYPE HERE]

**5. How will you positively represent the City of Aurora while abroad? What would your contribution be to the group?**

[TYPE HERE]

**6. Traveling can be tiresome and not always predictable. How do you cope with changes to itineraries, delays, etc.?**

[TYPE HERE]