



THIMUN YOUTH ASSEMBLY

the hague, the netherlands

23 january - 28 january 2010

XV ANNUAL SESSION | TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT

Dear Potential Guest Speakers, Participants and Coordinators,

I am proud to announce that next year (2011) will mark the ten-year anniversary of the THIMUN Youth Network! In the past ten years of the THIMUN Youth Network, (TYN) we have held over fourteen Youth Assemblies and attended over a dozen international conferences. From the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York City to the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen, and most recently the AIDS conference in Vienna; TYN has been involved in supporting youth led learning and development worldwide.

It is with great pleasure that I further announce that in January TYN will be hosting the 15th Session of the THIMUN Youth Assembly (TYA). From Sunday January 23rd to Friday January 28, 2011; with over seventy students form age 16 to 25, from around the world will meet together in The Hague to develop innovative and youthful solutions to global issues.

TYN has given me the opportunity to develop a global network and skills needed to establish solutions that increase youth involvement. While attending international schools in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and finally Tunisia, I had the opportunity to participate in several Model United Nations (MUN) conferences including THIMUN. Though I enjoyed representing a nation, debating and writing resolutions I found that rather than merely speculating about possible solutions, I wanted to learn how to develop grassroots projects that could have a positive influence in my own community. In 2008, I once again became involved in a THIMUN program and applied to be part of the coordinating staff of TYA 2009. Since 2009, I have been Deputy President of TYA, attended the Commission on Sustainable Development at the UN Headquarters in New York and been Chairperson of TYN.

TYA is always an incredible experience on many levels both academically and socially, and will certainly have a lasting impact on those who participated at one of our conferences. I sincerely hope to welcome you to our conference this January. Should you have any questions or concerns about the January 2011 conference please feel free to contact me.
me.

Sincerely,



Akua Nyame-Mensah

President, Fifteenth THIMUN Youth Assembly

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TYN was Established in 2001 and officially launched at the 35th Anniversary Session of The Hague International Model United Nations in January 2003.

THIMUN YOUTH NETWORK (TYN)

TYN is a youth –run and – organized subsidiary of THIMUN Foundation. TYN strives to facilitate and encourage youth to become aware and active; act as responsible stakeholders; and advance a spirit of collaboration, cooperation and participation among youth. The Network’s main annual event is the THMUN Youth Assembly.

Other TYN activities include delegations to international conferences, such as the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, (UNCSD) International AIDS Conference, and the Summer Symposium on the role of the youth as a major stakeholder in political forums and at the grassroots level.

MISSION

THIMUN Youth Network aims to facilitate and encourage youth to become aware and active, act as responsible stakeholders, and advance a spirit of collaboration, cooperation and participation among youth.



HISTORY

Rather than merely advocating for increased youth participation, TYN, through the THIMUN Youth Assembly, seeks to serve as a platform that enables youth to actively learn about issues, project management and development. TYN is a youth-run organization (16 – 25) developing individual projects, consulting with national and international actors, and playing key roles at international conferences.

The Youth Assembly is how most of our participants become first involved with the THIMUN Youth Network. Here they learn the basics of project and programme development, consensus-building, and international dialogue. The Youth Assembly is a key area for long-term training of the leaders of tomorrow. Participants learn about global issues, networking and project implementation so when they go back to their home countries they will have the tools and the support of a global network to help them implement a project individually. These projects may be peer-to-peer, community, or national-level projects depending on their area of focus.

Here is a list of some of the past projects: have helped establish National Youth Councils in their home countries, held panels at schools

on HIV/AIDS awareness, advocated and campaigned for green campuses, and initiated community newspaper article exchanges with partner schools in other countries.

TYA participants come from international high schools and universities from all around the world. This diversity gives our participants the opportunity to interact with people with different backgrounds and further develop

their communication skills in English. TYA projects and activities have involved over 1,000 participants from over 80 different countries!

TYN activity alumni have gone to participate in international conferences, work for the United Nations and other NGOs, gain admission to competitive higher-level educational institutions and most importantly, implement successful grassroots projects.

OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS PAST PARTICIPANTS HAVE COME FROM THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS:

Atlanta International School	Konstanz University
Australian National University	Lycee France van Gogh
Bilkent University	Robert College of Istanbul
Bryn Mawr College	Roger Williams University
Cambridge University	Seoul International School
Clemson University	Sorbonne Paris
Costeas Geitonas School	The English School of Nicosia
Da Vinci School, Leiden	Trinity College
Darhmouth Medical School	Universitat Freiburg
Dublin Institute of Technology	University College London
George Washington University	University of Genoa
Harvard University	University of Leiden
International School of Curacao	University of Pennsylvania
International School of Hamburg	University of York

THIMUN YOUTH ASSEMBLY OBJECTIVES

1

Contribute to the capacity of youth to create, develop and implement community specific projects through interactive workshops designed and delivered by youth with experience in a relevant field, professionals and scholars.

2

Provide the opportunity for youth to network and learn from one another in a multi-cultural setting through informal learning and the sharing of experiences.

3

Educate youth on global and local issues, while emphasising the role of the youth as a stakeholder, through thematic workshops, lectures and discussions.

Participants have had the opportunity to attend these international conferences and more:

- XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS2010) in Vienna Austria, 2010
- UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD+17) in New York, USA, 2009
- 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey 2009
- World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden 2007
- 4th World Water Forum in Mexico City, Mexico 2006
- XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto, Canada, 2006
- World Summit on Information Society PrepCom in Geneva, Switzerland 2005
- World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa 2002
- Youth Employment Summit in Alexandria, Egypt 2002
- World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa 2001

15TH THIMUN YOUTH ASSEMBLY

THIMUN YOUTH ASSEMBLY

The THIMUN Youth Assembly (TYA) is an annual conference that is hosted by the THIMUN Youth Network (TYN) and held during the same week as THIMUN.

As an educational conference TYA aims to educate youth on local and global issues, while emphasizing the role of the youth as a stakeholder, through thematic and project management workshops, lectures and discussions. These workshops are designed by and delivered by youth, who have experience in a relevant field. Additionally, the workshops aim to contribute to the capacity of youth to create, develop and implement community specific projects. The multicultural setting of our conference provides the opportunity for youth to network and learn from one another through committee discussions, participant-led presentations, informal learning and the sharing of experiences.

TYA 15 TENTATIVE COMMITTEES

- Social Tension, Conflict & Youth
- Demography & Youth
- Food Insecurity, Cooperation & Youth
- Athletics, Globalization & Youth
- Sustainable Development & Youth

- Urbanization & Youth
- Digital Citizenship & Youth

HOW TO APPLY

To participate in TYA you must submit an application online. The documents you are required to submit ensure that the application procedure reflects your intellectual curiosity, interest, and dedication to be a part of the TYA. The process involves providing:

- A. Basic Information
- B. THIMUN School Information [if attending a THIMUN School]
- C. Guardian Consent [if under 18 years old]

D. Visa Information

E. Expertise, Skills and Experience

F. Standard Documentation [CV/ Resume]

G. Reference

H. Payment

For a more detailed explanation of our application process and to apply visit our website:

<http://thimunyouthnetwork.org/wordpress/youth-assembly/how-to-apply-2>

COUNTDOWN TO PARTICIPATION

September 15, 2010	Coordinator Deadline; Application Fee must be paid
October 18, 2010	Participation Deadline; Application Fee must be paid
November 1, 2010 - January 22, 2011	Pre-Conference Phase
December 1, 2010	No-Refund Date
January 23 - 28, 2011	THIMUN Youth Assembly

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2011

09:00 - 16:00	REGISTRATION
16:00	TYA Opening Ceremonies
20:00	TYA Participants' Dinner

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011

09:00 - 11:00	Plenary: Introduction to TYN and TYA
11:00 - 17:00	Committees in session: Thematic workshops by youth and experts

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2011

09:00 - 10:30	Plenary: Introduction to the TYN's Principles
10:30 - 15:00	Committees in session: Thematic workshops by committee coordinators open to participants of other committees
15:00 - 17:00	Committees in session: Discussions

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011

09:00 - 12:00	Committees in session: Discussion on addressing thematic issues through projects
12:00 - 14:00	Plenary: Project management workshops by youth and professional experts

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2011

09:00 - 17:00	Committees in session: Participants design and draft pilot projects
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011

09:00 - 12:00	Committees in session: Pilot projects finalized
13:00 - 16:00	Plenary and Closing: Pilot projects presented by the participants
16:30	THIMUN Closing Ceremonies
20:00 - 24:00	THIMUN DANCE

FAQS

Q1: What are the requirements for applying to the THIMUN Youth Assembly?

The only requirement is that you be a “youth.” By the definition of the United Nations, this means between the ages of 16 – 25 (inclusive). You do not have to be a student to apply.

Q2: Does my school influence my committee allocation?

No. You influence your committee allocation. You are asked to rate your committee preferences, and based on your application documents, if you are accepted, our Presidential team will place you into a committee that they feel would best suit you based on your application.

Q3: What is THIMUN?

THIMUN stands for The Hague International Model United Nations. It is the world’s largest high school level Model United Nations, and also functions under the THIMUN Foundation. Many high school graduates who have moved on from THIMUN find the THIMUN Youth Assembly to be an exciting new experience.

Q4: Is the Youth Assembly an MUN?

No, the Youth Assembly is not a Model United Nations conference. You represent yourself, your own ideas, your own community – even if that is not representative of everyone where you live! You are your own individual when you apply, that is all we expect of you.

Q4: Do I need MUN experience to attend?

No, absolutely not.

Q5: How does the conference work?

The THIMUN Youth Assembly (TYA) is an annual conference that is hosted by the THIMUN Youth Network (TYN) and held during the same week as THIMUN.

TYA will aspire to provide youth with a unique set of skills that enables them to become active stakeholders.

The committees are each individual working groups. Two to three months prior to the conference, when you are first allocated to your committee, you will meet your Committee

Coordinators as well as your fellow participants online. In the weeks leading up to the conference, you will complete a series of assignments given to you by your Coordinators, which are designed to introduce you to the topic of your committee, and initiate brainstorming possibilities for the committee.

Once at the conference, the participants will be offered thematic and project management workshops, which will be organized and delivered by youth with relevant experience and in collaboration with experts. After attending these workshops, participants will be given the opportunity to apply what they learned by drafting pilot community-specific projects. Moreover, the TYA, aims to provide the participants with the opportunity to network with other youth in a diverse and multi-cultural environment.

Q6: Does the conference fee cover transportation/accommodation?

The conference fee includes lunch for the entire week, a TYN folder, conference dinner on Sunday and a one-week pass on the buses and trams available in The Hague. Besides that, it **does not cover your travel or accommodation**

expenses.

For assistance with finding accommodation students may contact info@youthassembly.org.

Q7: Do you offer a pickup service from the airport?

The THIMUN Youth Assembly does not offer a pickup service from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport to The Hague. You may buy a train ticket from Schiphol to “Den Haag Central Station (CS)” or Den Haag Holland Spor (HS).” Each train will get you to The Hague.

Do you offer funding/scholarships/financial assistance/sponsorship opportunities?

For assistance with trying to find individual sponsorship, students may contact info@youthassembly.org.

Q7: I’ve applied. What now?

If the email address you provided was correct, you will receive a confirmation email. This is the email address that will be used for all Youth Assembly related correspondence. Don’t forget to check your Spam/Junk boxes as well.

We cannot process your application unless you have transferred your participation fee:

- **190 EUR** for first time applicants
- **160 EUR** for those who have participated before
- This fee is paid to TYN and not to THIMUN
- It can be paid either through bank transfer or Paypal
- Must be paid immediately after application submission and will be refunded if the participant is not accepted to the conference

If you decide to pay online with PayPal you will be expected to pay an 8 Euro transaction fee during registration.

Q8: Ok, I’ve also paid. What now?

If your application has been successful, you will be informed as to which committee you have been placed. After that, your conference preparation will be handled by your Coordinators. If your application has not been successful, you will be contacted by the TYA Presidential Team.



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