

# NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK



***Building power among young leaders with disabilities!***

## **NYLN IS LOOKING FOR NEW LEADERS! ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?**

The National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN) is a non-profit organization run by and for young people with disabilities. We are currently seeking leaders who are energetic, dedicated, and driven to serve on our Board of Directors for 2013. NYLN is a cross-disability organization. This means we are made up of people with all kinds of disabilities. Anyone with any kind of disability is welcome to apply.

### **What is NYLN based on?**

The National Youth Leadership Network encourages disabled youth to:

- Build interdependent support systems;
- Participate and serve local communities;
- Become involved in the Disability Rights Movement and other social justice movements; and
- Know the value behind their experiences.

### **What does NYLN do?**

The National Youth Leadership Network focuses on:

- Creating leadership opportunities for visionary young leaders;
- Educating the community about how to be fully inclusive;
- Advocating for diverse representation in the Disability Rights Movement;
- Training people in our local communities and nationally;
- Learning how to expand our organization to suit the needs of our ever-changing community.

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### **What does the Board of Directors do?**

NYLN is a non-profit organization. Therefore, we have a Board of Directors to determine our priorities. Our Board makes decisions for NYLN and they lead the projects that meet those priorities. Examples of these activities include:

- Serving on at least one committee;
- Representing NYLN in coalitions and at conferences;
- Building collaboration with other organizations;
- Recruiting new members; and
- Finding ways for NYLN to be active in their local communities.

### **What is the time commitment like?**

Serving on the Board of NYLN involves two meetings per month, maybe more. One meeting is for the Board of Directors; one meeting is for the committee of choice. Meetings happen by phone or online chatroom. Board members spend about 15 hours per month working on NYLN activities.

### **Requirements for serving on the Board:**

To apply to serve on NYLN's Board of Directors, you must:

- Be between 14 and 28 years old
- Have a disability
- Live in the United States or its territories,
- Have a passion for social justice, and
- Believe and daily demonstrate full-inclusion.

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## **Important dates:**

- Learn more about NYLN and what serving on our Board includes by attending an informational call on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm EST. The call in info is: Phone: (866)200-5786 PIN#: 2867077
- Applications for the Board must be postmarked by Monday, September 17, 2012.
- Applicants will be notified of selection no later than September 30, 2012.
- The first Board call for those who are selected will be October 17 at 7pm EST. More information will be sent to selected members prior to this date.

To find out more, visit [www.nyln.org](http://www.nyln.org).  
If you have questions, please contact either of the following:

Jessica Croner, President, [jessica.croner@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.croner@gmail.com)  
Betsy Valnes, Executive Director, [betsy.valnes@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.valnes@gmail.com),  
866-480-6565, ext. 1

**Applications MUST BE POSTMARKED by  
Monday, September 17, 2012!**

**Please send a hard copy of your application to:**

**Jessica Croner, NYLN President  
118 Roosevelt Ave.  
Pocatello, ID 83201**

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## *Building power among young leaders with disabilities!* APPLICATION

NYLN BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2013

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender Identity: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**(The following information is optional. It will be kept private.)**

What is your disability? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you define it?

- Mobility       Hearing       Visual       Cognitive       Learning  
 Intellectual       Emotional/Behavioral/Mental Health  
 Other (for example, Diabetes, Cancer, Chronic Fatigue, or HIV/AIDS)

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your race/ethnicity? [Please check all that apply.]

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- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African American  | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian (White) | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American/Alaska Native |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander  | <input type="checkbox"/> Arab American                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latino/Latina     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) _____ |

## **Who is providing your letter of recommendation?**

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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In addition to the pages you just filled out, please include the following:

**Resume:** This can be a formal resume or a paragraph that tells us about who you are and your leadership experiences.

**Recommendation Letter:** One letter of recommendation must come from someone who can tell us about you. This person cannot be a family member. This letter should be sent with your application.

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**Essay Questions:** Please answer the following questions. Your answer to each question should be no more than 500 words.

Question #1 (Required): Imagine that you are writing your own dictionary.

Define the following words/phrases. Tell us what they mean to you:

- Community builder (noun, as in “the person”):
- Interdependence
- Social Justice

Question #2 (Required): NYLN is led by young people with disabilities.

What do you think is the benefit of being led by disabled people?

**Please answer one of the following:**

Question #3(Optional): What are three skills or features about yourself that you will share with NYLN? What are three things you think you will gain from being involved with NYLN? (Examples: Are you good at getting people excited? Are you a Twitter expert? Are you a great listener? Tell us!)

Question # 4 (Optional): What important issues do you believe most affect the disability community today?

**Don't Forget: Applications MUST be POSTMARKED by  
September 17th!**