

State Youth Activities

Changing Young Lives for Today and Tomorrow

Many times you hear the phrase that the youth are our future. While this phrase has become a bit of a cliché, it is absolutely vital not only for our Order but for the Church that we work with the young people in our parishes and communities to build up their faith. But, as Pope Francis reminded those in attendance at the 2013 World Youth Day, young people must go out and change people's lives through the Gospel. In that way our youth can be an important part our work as Knights today.

The State Council, therefore, supports a number of programs designed to help your council enhance its relationship with the youth of your parish and community. This fraternal year, why don't you consider undertaking one of these programs for the first time in your council. Run a Coats for Kids Drive, participate in the soccer or free throw competitions, organize an essay or poster contest. Of course, be sure to promote the State Council scholarships to your members and their families. Many of your councils will continue to participate in these endeavors. If that is the case for your council, set a goal to expand your good work in these areas.

Building the Domestic Church Youth Requirements

As part of the Supreme Council Building the Domestic Church initiative, there are some changes to the youth program that Supreme has mandated for each subordinate council. The Board of Directors has concluded that councils can no longer be the chartered organization for Boy Scout of America troops. By the end of 2016 all councils should conclude their sponsorship of these scouting units. This change does not mean, however, that Supreme desires that the Knights of Columbus abandon Catholic scouting all together. Individuals are encouraged to continue to volunteer and support the Boy Scouts. Supreme wants each council who has previously sponsored the scouts to work with the parish pastor to determine if scouting fits within the parish youth ministry. If so, the parish should then become the chartered organization. Otherwise, the council leaders should work with the local Scouting Council to find new sponsorship.

At the same time, Supreme is encouraging all councils to work with their parish youth ministry and Catholic schools. Not only should councils avoid duplicating efforts, but everyone should join with their parishes and schools to enhance the local work in whatever way possible. As a result, while the Columbian Squires program remains in place and Supreme will continue to support it, councils are not encouraged to form new circles at this point in time.

Youth Protection Requirements

The Supreme Council has instituted a program called the Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program. This online program, along with a formal background check, is designed to teach all Grand Knights and those who are in direct contact with young people in Knights of Columbus sponsored activities/organizations the signs of abuse and what we as Knights should do to provide our youth with a safe and supporting environment. The online program can be completed in as little as one hour.

Furthermore, there is no formal meetings to attend. Those completing the program are certified for a period of two years. The Safe Environment Training and subsequent background check is in addition to any checks performed by the diocese or outside organizations. There is no cost for these checks to the council or individual.

Lucas Volkman
State Youth Director
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Coats for Kids

People in need are not nameless faces, they are people in our own communities. Much of the charitable work done by Knights of Columbus councils is done in our own backyards to benefit those who are our neighbors. An excellent way to put the prime virtue of the Order, charity, into action is through participation in the Coats for Kids initiative.

According to the Supreme Council, as part of the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program, over 1600 councils all across North America purchase new winter coats for children in need each year. Since the program began in 2009, more than 306,000 coats have been distributed.

Your council can order cases of coats through the Supreme website's form section – Coats for Kids Order Form #5029. After filling it out you can email it to Supreme. The coats cost \$220 per case, with each case containing a dozen coats. You can specify either boys or girls for the coats, which will arrive in a variety of sizes. The council will then be billed on its monthly statement from Supreme.

Like all activities, the Coats for Kids program works best if you plan it in advance and set a distribution date and location. Consult with church, school and community officials as you prepare your drive and be sure to publicize everything. Finally, hold a thank you for all the volunteers and contributors.

As a feature program, if your council meets the minimum guidelines set forth by Supreme, your drive will be eligible to fulfill all four Youth Activity requirements for the Columbian Award (SP-7). To meet this requirement, your council must order and distribute a minimum of eight cases of coats while filling out the order form.

John Myers
Coats for Kids Chairman
465 Cedar Lane
Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670
D: 573-883-3838 N-573-483-3189
coatsforkids@mokofc.org

2016 – 2017 State Youth Poster Contest

TOPICS – “Alcohol Awareness & Abuse” or “Drug Awareness & Abuse”

The Knights of Columbus Poster Contest is open to all Catholic students — in public, private or parochial schools, grade categories of 8-11 years old and 12-14 years old. The contest advances through levels of competition to the Supreme level.

Plaques will be awarded to each 1st and 2nd place winners in each category and age group.

Poster Kit for Materials

All the materials needed by councils to participate in the Knights of Columbus Youth Poster Contest are included in the Poster Contest KIT (SA-Kit). The kit can be ordered from the Supreme Office by your Financial Secretary.

Internet Sites For Details

www.kofc.org , click on Youth Activities / Poster Contest. The complete rules and information for this project are available at this website.

www.facebook.com/MOKofCYouth – Latest updates and images of winning posters.

Timeline

August/September: Councils and assemblies contact schools to secure cooperation. At this time the date, place and means of recognizing winners should be determined.

September/November: Students complete their posters per the guidelines and rules. Posters should be submitted to your council chairman by November 30, 2016.

December/January: District Judging if necessary.

February: State judging. Submit your District Winners to the Chairman listed below, by February 28, 2017. DO NOT SEND TO SUPREME.

Participation Form

The council form (#4016) for use at the council level must be filled out and sent to the Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services by January 30th.

General Rules, Summary

Posters must be 11” x 17” to be considered for judging at the state level.

Students may enter either or both topics they’re qualified in by age.

The student’s name must appear only on the official Knights of Columbus Poster Contest entry form which must be stapled to the back of the poster.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.

Jason Kehl

Essay/Poster Contest Chairman

9325 E. Lake San-Lynn Rd, Centralia, MO 65240

573.682.7901

essay@mokofc.org

2016 – 2017 State Essay Contest, Catholic Citizenship

TOPIC – “The Importance of Religious Freedom”

The Knights of Columbus Essay Contest to all Catholic students — in public, private or parochial schools, grades 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 during the current school year. The contest advances through levels of competition to the international level.

Essay Kit for Materials

All the materials needed by councils to participate in the Knights of Columbus Essay Contest are included in the Essay Contest KIT (EA-Kit). The kit can be ordered from the Supreme Office by your Financial Secretary.

Internet Sites For Details

www.kofc.org/essay There is an 8 page, color, PDF brochure with EVERYTHING you need for this project.

www.facebook.com/MOKofCYouth – Latest updates and essay winners.

Timeline

July/August: Councils and assemblies order Knights of Columbus Essay Contest Kits from the Supreme Council Office. (Print Version - Online Version)

August/September: Councils and assemblies contact schools to secure cooperation. At this time the date, place and means of recognizing winners should be determined.

September/October: Students write essays. Essays should be submitted to judges by October 15th.

October/November: Judges review essays for council level.

December/January: District Judging (if necessary).

February/March: State judging. Submit your District Winners to the Chairman listed below, by April 15th. DO NOT SEND TO SUPREME.

Participation Form

The council form (#4216) for use at the council level must be filled out and sent to the Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services by January 30th.

General Rules, Summary

Essays must reflect the assigned theme and topic, and be submitted by the published deadline.

They must be the student’s original work.

Typed on 8 1/2” X 11” paper, one sided, double spaced, with one-inch margins.

Between 500 and 750 words long.

The student’s name should appear only on the official Knights of Columbus Essay Contest entry form which must be stapled to the essay.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.

Jason Kehl

Essay/Poster Contest Chairman

9325 E. Lake San-Lynn Rd, Centralia, MO 65240

573.682.7901

postercontest@mokofc.org

Scholarships Awarded by the Missouri State Council

The Missouri State council awards a total of eleven (11) scholarships each year. Each scholarship has an annual award of \$1000, Payable in installments of \$500 per semester. The scholarships are designated in the following categories:

Four (4) LUKE E. HART MEMORIAL Scholarships. The recipients MUST attend one of the branches of the University of Missouri in Columbia, St. Louis, Rolla, or Kansas City. If fewer than four qualified applicants apply, then these scholarships may be awarded as specified for Missouri State Scholarships.

Three (3) MISSOURI STATE Scholarships. The recipients may attend any accredited university, college, or technical school; beyond high school level.

One (1) CARDINAL BERNARD F. LAW Scholarship. The recipient may attend any accredited seminary of their choice studying for a vocation to the religious life.

Two (2) VOCATION Scholarships. The recipients may attend any accredited seminary or college of their choice to study for a vocation to the religious life. If no applications are received from applicants desiring to study for a vocation to the priesthood or to serve in a religious community, then these scholarships may be awarded to other applicants with preference given to those attending Catholic institutions.

One (1) TECH SCHOOL Scholarship. The recipient may attend any accredited technical school. These are normally two-year programs.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for the **Hart, Missouri State, or Tech School scholarships**, the applicant MUST be:

A member of the Knights of Columbus; **OR** The son, daughter, or wife of a member of the Knights of Columbus; **OR** The son, daughter, or non-remarried wife of a deceased member of the Knights of Columbus; **OR** a member of a Ladies Auxiliary of a Missouri Knights Council **OR** A Squire or Columbus Girl in good standing, attested to by the Chief Counselor and GK; **OR** A minor child whose LEGAL GUARDIAN is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

The applicant must obtain the certification of the Grand Knight **OR** the Financial Secretary of the local Council to verify membership. Member is defined as a member in good standing of a Council within Missouri. Applicants for **the Cardinal Law or Vocations** scholarships must be approved by one of the Missouri Dioceses or by a religious order located in Missouri. The membership requirements do NOT apply to Vocation Applicants.

Scholarship winners are selected on the basis of Catholic citizenship, community service, scholarship, and financial need. The recipients are selected by a Committee of the Knights of Columbus as appointed by the State Deputy. All scholarships are for Missouri residents. Payments are made directly to the institution AFTER proof of successful enrollment in good standing is provided to the Scholarship Committee.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed applications using only the 2016-2017 application form, and required certification forms must be postmarked no later than **FEBRUARY 13, 2017** in order to be considered. Applications will be available on the mokofc.org web page.

Applications should be mailed to:

Michael A. Deamos
Scholarship Chairman
1904 Pine Street
Higginsville, MO 64037
D/N: 816-405-7418
scholarship@mokofc.org

Scholarships and Graduate Fellowships Awarded by the Supreme Council

PRO DEO AND PRO PATRIA Scholarships

Sixty-two (62) scholarships for undergraduate studies in the amount of \$1500 are awarded in this program to members and the sons and daughters of a member or deceased member. Ten (10) of these scholarships are awarded for studies at the Catholic University of America and forty-eight (48) are awarded for studies at any Catholic college of the student's choice in the U.S., Mexico, Puerto Rico, or the Philippines. Four (4) additional scholarships are awarded annually to members of the Columbian Squires.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

These fellowships are established for work in the fields offered in the graduate school of the Catholic University of America. The fellowships cover tuition, room and board and may be renewed annually up to three years. Detailed information on these programs is available in the Financial Aid To Education pamphlet #951 or by writing directly to: Director of Scholarship Aid, P.O. Box 1670, New Haven, CT 06507.

Soccer Challenge

**Levels of Competition: Council, District, Regional and State
State Winners Are Forwarded to Supreme for International Consideration**

Six age groups: Boys ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 (Age as of September 1, 2016)
Girls ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 (Age as of September 1, 2016)

Tournament Schedule: **Council** – Month of September **District** – October 1 thru 15
Regional – October 16 thru 31 **State** – November

Times, dates, and places will be posted on the state website (mokofc.org).
Competition Kit order forms are in the COUNCIL REPORTS FROM BOOKLET or can be ordered online at the Supreme Council Website at www.kofc.org. Please refer to SC-KIT.

Completion Rules

Score sheets are not to be returned to the participants. Winner's sheets will be forwarded to the Chairman of the next level of competition. An estimated number of participants should be kept by the council and forwarded to the State Chairman.

Awards: **Council Level** – Trophies, Plaques, etc. of the Council's choice (no savings bonds/cash)
District Level – Medallions **Regional Level** – Plaques
State Level – Trophies **International Level** – Trophies

Free Throw Championship

**Levels of Competition: Council, District, Regional and State
State Winners Are Forwarded to Supreme for International Consideration**

Six age groups: Boys ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 (Age as of January 1, 2017)
Girls ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 (Age as of January 1, 2017)

Tournament Schedule: **Council** – Month of January **District** – February 1 thru 15
Regional – February 16 thru 28 **State** – March

Times, dates, and places will be posted on the state website (mokofc.org).
Competition Kit order forms are in the COUNCIL REPORTS FROM BOOKLET or can be ordered online at the Supreme Council Website at www.kofc.org. Please refer to SC-KIT.

Completion Rules

Score sheets are not to be returned to the participants. Winner's sheets will be forwarded to the Chairman of the next level of competition. An estimated number of participants should be kept by the council and forwarded to the State Chairman.

Awards: **Council Level** – Trophies, Plaques, etc. of the Council's choice (no savings bonds/cash)
District Level – Medallions **Regional Level** – Plaques
State Level – Trophies **International Level** – Trophies

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