

Announcing "Camp Brave Heart", National High School Summer Camp

Michael Balcomb March 30, 2013

Dear Families,

It is our great pleasure to announce the inauguration of Camp Brave Heart! Camp Brave Heart is a national summer camp for young Unificationists and their friends that will take place at the Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown, New York. Under the direction of David Hunter, National Youth Pastor, we are preparing a sixteen-day High School Camp in July of 2013 that will help teenagers experience the joys of the Unification faith, inherit the vision of living for a peaceful world, and grow closer to God and True Parents while having lots and lots of fun with their peers. Because of scheduling conflicts this year, we will not host a middle school camp in 2013. **Registration for Camp Brave Heart is now open and available at www.braveheartcamp.com!**

Camp FUNdamentals

Camp Brave Heart's vision is to raise-up a Generation of Peace by inspiring young people to inherit the true love of God. We do that by educating them to understand that they are eternal sons and daughters of our Heavenly Parent, each with their own unique, divine value. We encourage youth to live lives of altruism, compassion and excellence by rooting their lives in the framework of the Divine Principle, Unification tradition and spiritual practice.

In order to achieve our vision, we believe that young people must be grounded in the teachings of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and the Divine Principle, which are our primary sources of educational content at Camp Brave Heart. Most importantly, we want our graduates to have a real understanding of how to apply True Parents' teachings in their daily life. For this reason, educational opportunities at camp are balanced between classroom-style presentations and challenge-based experiential learning.

Most importantly, Camp Brave Heart is a summer camp (not a workshop) where we believe young Unificationists should experience the joys of youth in a spiritually rich environment. Therefore, a great portion of our schedule is devoted to having fun, and we do this on purpose. Teenagers are more apt to learn when they are having fun. Teenagers are more likely to feel safe, and thus open their hearts when they are having fun. Thus, having fun is a FUNdamental goal of Camp Brave Heart.

Camp Facility

The UTS facility in Barrytown affords us lots of room for all of the exciting activities that we are planning for this year's camp. UTS recently renovated their East-wing dorms, which means participant accommodations will be even more comfortable than last year. In terms of activities, Camp Brave Heart will include all the traditional camp activities like roasting marshmallows over a campfire and running until your legs burn in a game of capture the flag. But, we are also making efforts to ensure that our campers will also be able to play water-sports, go hiking, and get a first hand understanding behind the history and heritage of the UTS property.

The National Experience

As a national program of FFWPU-USA, Camp Brave Heart provides teens with the unique opportunity to connect with their peers from different communities around the country. It is our belief that this is an important experience for young Unificationists that helps them broaden their horizons. At Camp Brave Heart, young people can experience the Unification Movement beyond their local church, and come to see it as part of a global village working toward a common goal.

Camp Dates

Young Adult Staff Training: July 7 - July 11, 2013 High School Camp: July 12 - July 28, 2013

Camper Qualifications

Students who were enrolled as a high school freshman, sophomore, junior or senior in the 2012-2013 school year may register for the High School Camp. High School graduates who were enrolled as high school seniors during the 2012-2013 school year should likewise attend the High School Camp as a participant. Young Adults, aged 18 or older, who were either enrolled as college freshmen during the 2012-2013 school year and/or graduated high school in the Spring of 2012 may apply to be camp counselors for the High School Camp.

Camp Pricing Structure

\$975: April 1 - April 30 (Early Bird)
\$1000: May 1 - May 31 (Normal Registration)
\$1100: June 1 - June 15 (Late Registration)
Registration Closes June 15, 2013. No exceptions!
Young Adult Staff - No Fee. All staff applications are due by May 15, 2013.
There will be no family or multiple-child discount.

How to Register or Apply

All camper registrations, payments and staff applications must be done online at www.braveheartcamp.org. Unfortunately, space is limited to 120 campers (60 boys and 60 girls), so registration will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is not complete until payment is received.

Please note that New York State Law requires overnight camps to keep camper immunization records on file. All the information you need to know about the proper immunizations required for camp can be downloaded from the Camp Brave Heart website. Please send your child's immunization records signed by your child's physician to braveheart@unification.org. If you prefer to send items by mail, please send the forms to:

Camp Brave Heart, c/o David Hunter 481 8th Ave., Room 618 New York, NY 10001

If you have any questions, please send an email to <u>braveheart@unification.org</u>. We look forward to a great camp this year and we are confident that your child will have an awesome experience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Balcomb President

David Hunter National Youth and Young Adult Pastor Director, Camp Brave Heart