



**American Exceptionalism:
*The Education of Ronald Reagan & the Enduring Promise of the American
Dream***

The Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home • Dixon, Illinois • July 22-23, 2021

Frequently Asked Questions

When should I arrive?

You should arrive between **11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22 to the Loveland Community House (513 W 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021)**. The conference starts at 1:00 p.m. Young America's Foundation will offer a shuttle to and from the hotel in the evening.

What time does the conference end?

Checking out of the hotel will occur Friday morning, and parents will pick up their student **Friday evening from Lowell Park (2114 Lowell Park Rd, Dixon, IL 61021)**. Parents are invited to join their student for a special barbecue dinner starting at 4:30 pm on Friday, July 23. The program concludes at **6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 23 at Lowell Park**.

Where will I be staying during the program?

YAF will provide hotel accommodations for students on Thursday night at the Holiday Inn & Suites (301 E 2nd St, Rock Falls, IL 61071). YAF will provide shuttles to and from the hotel during the program.

What are the living arrangements?

Students will have one roommate of the same sex for the conference in the hotel. The registration form contains a blank in which you can request a roommate, and we will do our best to accommodate those requests.

Can I stay an extra night in the hotel if I am not flying out until July 24th?

A limited number of rooms are available to students on Friday night upon request. If you would like to stay an extra night, please email your travel plans and hotel needs to Madison Habersetzer at madisonh@reaganranch.org no later than June 25, 2021.

To which airport should I fly?

You should fly into Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD).

What if I am an “Unaccompanied Minor” flying in for the conference?

“Unaccompanied Minor” is a term used by airlines to designate travelers under their care. Please refer to your specific airline for guidance on who must be designated as an “Unaccompanied Minor.” Flying as an unaccompanied minor requires you to have a designated adult pick you up at the gate upon arrival and wait with you at the gate, inside of TSA security, until your flight is “wheels up.”

Due to the limited number of staff members, we are not able to accommodate “Unaccompanied Minors” via YAF staff. Students needing to fly as “Unaccompanied Minors” must have a friend or family member who is able to get them through the security process.

How will students get to and from the airport and the conference?

Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the airport.

What if I take the train?

You should arrive at Chicago Union Station in Chicago, IL. Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the train station.

Can I take the bus?

Yes, Greyhound has a stop in Dixon, IL. The Reagan Trans Station is located at 210 E Progress Dr, Dixon, IL 61021, which is a short drive from the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home. More information can be found at <https://www.greyhound.com/en-us/bus-station-560362?redirecturl=true> Students will be responsible for making their own arrangements for getting to the program from the bus station.

Where should I park if I drive myself?

Parking is available at the hotel and at Loveland Community House.

Is travel assistance available for students?

Yes—travel assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with demonstrable financial need. Please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to **travel@yaf.org** that includes:

- Language regarding your financial need
 - What you hope to gain by attending the conference
 - Your travel plans
 - The expected amount of your travel plans and the amount you are requesting.
- (For example, expected travel costs from LAX to ORD \$500. I am requesting \$200 in assistance.)

**We will not consider your request until we receive this completed essay.*

Please note that travel assistance is not guaranteed and is allocated on a case-by-case basis. Incomplete essays will not be considered.

Travel assistance essays are due no later than June 25, 2021, but are issued first come first served.

How much is tuition? What is included in this fee?

Tuition for this program is \$25 and includes one night in the hotel, conference tuition, materials, and meals from Thursday lunch through Friday dinner.

Is tuition assistance available?

Tuition assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for those with demonstrable financial need. If you have financial need, please email a brief essay (no more than a page) to Jolie Ballantyne at jballantyne@yaf.org with some language regarding your financial need. **We cannot consider your request until we receive this essay.**

Can I sponsor a student to attend this program?

Yes! While we keep tuition costs for students very low, the total cost of attendance is more significant. Your generous tax-deductible gift of \$1,500 will allow Young America's Foundation to host a student at this program who could not otherwise attend. You can designate a specific student you know to attend, or sponsor a student who is receiving free tuition as a result of financial need. For more information about this sponsorship opportunity, please contact Young America's Foundation Development Officer Katie Cupp at katiec@reaganranch.org or call 805-957-1980. Please notify us separately if your gift is intended for a specific student.

Will there be supervision during the weekend?

Yes, students will be supervised by Young America's Foundation staff members who will chaperone the students the entire weekend. Students are expected to behave appropriately or will be told to leave the conference at their parent's expense. YAF enforces a curfew each evening, and students must abide by the hotel rules. Both parents and students will need to sign a responsibility pledge when the conference approaches.

What are the activities during the conference?

The event kicks off with speaker sessions, question and answer sessions, and a dinner banquet on Friday night. Saturday will feature more speakers, a tour of the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home, and a lunch banquet. Parents are invited to join their students for a concluding barbecue at Lowell Park on Saturday evening. A full agenda will be sent to students a week prior to the program.

Will students have free time during the conference?

No, because the event is only two days long. Young America's Foundation only covers your lodging on Thursday night, and we are unable to accommodate or supervise you at any other time.

What is the dress for this conference?

The dress code for this conference is casual but respectful. Jeans are acceptable as long as there are no holes or tears, but shorts are discouraged. Although you may want to pack some clothes for lawn games in the evening!

How many students are expected for the conference?

50 students are expected to attend the conference.

How can parents stay updated about conference events?

Conference updates will be posted on Twitter (@YAF and @Y_A_Freedom) and Instagram (@YAF_).

When/where can I see conference photos?

Pictures from the photo lines and conference events will be posted on the Young America's Foundation Facebook page following the event. Photos may take several weeks, please be patient.

Can I bring items for speakers to sign?

Yes, you are welcome to bring items to be autographed, however, we cannot guarantee the speakers will be able to sign them. Please do not ask speakers for autographs or photos during the Q&A portions of their lectures. We will do our best to help you with these requests, but our speakers have very busy schedules and may not have time allotted for photos and signings.

COVID-19 Specific questions:

Will I still be able to meet speakers?

To accommodate social distancing requirements, YAF is unlikely to host many formal photo lines with speakers. If we are able to make meet and greets with speakers possible, we will most likely ask speakers and students to refrain from shaking hands and other physical contact.

Will social distancing or masks be enforced during sessions?

YAF will follow all state and local ordinances. As of now, masks are required in the State of Illinois.

Do I need to bring my own mask or will they be provided?

You are encouraged to bring your own mask. YAF will offer free masks as well.

What if I have other questions about the program?

Please feel free to call Madison Habersetzer at 805-957-1980, or email her at madisonh@reaganranch.org if you have any specific questions.

What are the terms and conditions of the conference?

a) LIMITED SPACE. I understand that I am applying for a limited amount of space at this conference and that my application is subject to confirmation. I will be notified within three weeks of submitting my application whether I have been accepted to the conference. In the event I have not been accepted, my charge will be refunded immediately.

b) FAILURE TO ATTEND. I recognize that my participation in this conference is made possible through the generous financial support of Young America's Foundation's supporters nationwide. As such I agree to attend all sessions of the conference. **I understand that if I fail to attend all**

sessions of the conference, I will be charged, and I agree to pay, the total cost of my attendance for the conference, which total \$1,500 per attendee.

c) PLEDGE NOT TO DISRUPT. I assert that I am not here under any false pretense. I will not disrupt or undermine the event by my actions.

d) PROMOTION OF OTHER GROUPS. I understand that Young America's Foundation has a set procedure in place for outside organizations to attend the event and I am not allowed to promote any other groups or organizations without written permission from Young America's Foundation.

e) FAILURE TO NOTIFY OF CANCELLATION. **I must notify Young America's Foundation by June 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. EST of my inability to attend or I will be charged the supplemental fee of \$1,500 since it is too late to give my spot to another student.**

f) LATE CANCELLATION. I understand that the conference fee is not refundable if I cancel my participation after June 25, 2021.

g) ROOMMATES. I understand I will be assigned roommates for the conference. I may request preferred roommates of the same sex, but there is a chance I may not be able to room with them.

h) HOTEL RULES/REGULATIONS. I agree to abide by all rules and instructions of Young America's Foundation and to obey all laws. I agree to notify Young America's Foundation's staff immediately if a problem arises during the conference.

i) WAIVER. Young America's Foundation uses real photos, videos, and quotes from our students for promotional purposes and to advance its mission. By attending this program, I do hereby grant Young America's Foundation ("the Foundation") permission to use, exploit, adapt, modify, reproduce, distribute, publicly perform and display, in any form now known or later developed, my image or visual likeness, my name and/or my voice ("Personal Information") throughout the world, by incorporating it or them into publications, catalogues, brochures, books, magazines, photo exhibits, motion picture films, videotapes, websites, and/or other media ("Works") or commercial, informational, educational, advertising, fundraising, or promotional materials relating thereto. I waive any right to inspect or approve any Works that may be created using the Personal Information and waive any claim with respect to the eventual use to which the personal information may be applied. The Personal Information may be used at the Foundation's sole discretion. I understand and agree that the Foundation is and shall be the exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest, including copyright, in the Works, and any commercial, informational, educational, advertising, fundraising, or promotional material containing the Personal Information.

j) ADDED TO EMAIL LIST. I understand that my email address will be added to the YAF email list for notification of future events.

k) OPT IN TO TEXTING SERVICE. **By registering, I agree that the phone number I have provided under Cell Phone is my own and that YAF may call and send text messages to this**

phone number in order to respond to and provide me with information and services related to my request, comments, and questions regarding YAF. Message and data rates may apply. Text Stop to stop.

l) SOCIAL MEDIA/PRIVATE MESSAGING. I understand that the words, statements, and images that I post on social media or send through private forms of communication may reflect on YAF and the Conservative Movement as a whole. I understand that during the conference, YAF is monitoring participants' social media posts, including but not limited to, posts on Facebook, Twitter, and Group Me. **I understand that by posting, or sending, inappropriate words, statements, or images (as determined by YAF), I may be removed from the conference, in which case I forfeit my registration fee and I will be liable to pay the remainder of the \$1,475 program cost.**

m) FAILURE TO ABIDE BY TERMS AND CONDITIONS. **I understand that if I fail to abide by these terms I will forfeit my registration fee and be liable to pay the remainder of the \$1,475 program costs.**