

“Creating memories and  
inspiring appreciation  
of the natural world”

## The Youth Engagement Program at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory



Thank you for your interest in the Youth Engagement Program (YEP) at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory! YEP is a program for any youth entering 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2019 who have a desire for gaining knowledge in the conservation field. YEP will offer youth a unique environment to learn from professionals in their respective fields, have fun and learn about conservation in our community. Como asks that youth who join YEP come with an open mind and the desire to be engaged. Youth who sign up for the program will be considered volunteers of Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Hours participating in the program can be used at volunteer hours for other organizations such as school requirements. This program is FREE to participating youth as costs are covered by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment Grant.

YEP will have three, one-week sessions, June 10-14, June 17-21 and June 24-28. Each of the one-week sessions are independent but may have some overlap of activities. Meeting times will be 9:00am to 3:00pm, Monday through Friday. This program will be a combination of learning from our experts at Como, as well as visiting other organizations to connect and learn from them. You are encouraged to apply early, and share your excitement with friends who may also be interested in joining.

Highlights of the program include:

- Networking with professionals in conservation and related fields
- Field trips to fun destinations that support conservation and sustainable practices
- Behind the scenes visits with Como staff
- Connecting with fellow youth who share your passion and interests

Ready to apply? We thought so! Here are the steps you need to take to get started:

- Download, print and complete the attached application
- Obtain the required signatures – youth and parent or guardian
- Submit completed application (pages 2 and 3) soon to ensure we have spots available.
- Questions? Call 651-487-8271 or email: [tim.buer@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:tim.buer@ci.stpaul.mn.us)



The Youth Engagement Program is generously  
funded through the **Legacy Amendment Arts  
and Cultural Heritage Grant.**



**Application –**

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Return completed applications to:  
Como Park Zoo and Conservatory  
Attn: Youth Engagement Program  
1225 Estabrook Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
or scan and email to  
tim.buer@ci.stpaul.mn.us

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

What excites you about being a part of this program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are some of your educational and career interests? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How will you benefit from participating in this program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Work related to conservation has endless career opportunities, if you had a dream job in conservation work, what would it be and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about YEP? \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contact Information –**

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

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address (street, city, zip): \_\_\_\_\_

School attending during 2019 – 2020 school year: \_\_\_\_\_

City / town where school is located: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level in 2019-2020(circle): 9 10 11 12



**Personal Commitment –**

I understand that participation in the Youth Engagement Program entails all the following activities and I am committed to fully engaging in each aspect of the program including:

1. Commit to attending all scheduled meetings for the week I registered for
2. Communicate to Como Education staff if I am not able to attend a session
3. Strive to be engaged in the program as this is a **career based program** designed to enhance my resume
4. Track all hours as this program is volunteer based.

**NOTE: 100% attendance is not a requirement, however, strongly encouraged to experience the benefits of the program.**

Please indicate the session(s) you are signing up for:

June 10-14

June 17-21

June 24-28

**Your signature indicates that you have read and understand all the information in this application packet and you are committed to take the necessary steps to successfully participate in this program.**

Signature of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/ Guardian Commitment –**

I understand that \_\_\_\_\_ (applicant’s name) is applying for the Youth Engagement Program @ Como Park Zoo and Conservatory and I will support their participation.

Signature of parent / guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent / guardian phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**To successfully apply for the Youth Engagement Program at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory:**

Submit your completed application via email or mail to:

**Como Park Zoo and Conservatory**  
**Attn: Youth Engagement Program**  
**1225 Estabrook Drive**  
**St. Paul, MN 55103**  
[tim.buer@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:tim.buer@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
Phone: 651-487-8271