

Operation Understanding DC (OUDC) Summer Journey Leader

We are seeking Summer Journey Leaders to assist Operation Understanding DC's Program Director in leading our 2017 Summer Journey, which will take place in July 2017.

Please submit cover letters and resumes by COB May 3rd, 2017 to info@oudc.org.

Operation Understanding DC (OUDC) brings together Black and Jewish high schools students for a year of learning, leadership development, and action. In the first six months we study our histories, identities, and cultures through educational programming. We then embark on a journey during the summer, meeting Civil Rights movement leaders, current movement leaders and physically walking the path of history. After the summer journey, our students learn how to facilitate meaningful dialogues in the community through workshops on power, privilege, and equity.

The summer journey is the cornerstone of our program. For two and half weeks, our students dive deep into past and current struggles for human rights. They engage in powerful dialogue amongst themselves, build long-lasting relationships with speakers and one another and further discover their passions for social justice.

Position Description and Qualifications:

OUDC Summer Journey leaders are responsible for accompanying and closely supervising a group of 23 high school juniors on a nearly three week educational tour through sites in the United States relating to the fight for human rights. The journey begins July 5, 2017 and ends of July 21, 2017. States visited include Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

Each group leader must possess the ability to responsibly supervise teenagers; be skilled in facilitating group discussions; have knowledge of and interest in social justice; have the necessary qualities to be a role-model for academically motivated and activist high-school students; and be comfortable co-facilitating and co-leading the journey activities. Prior to the journey, OUDC group leaders must also be able to commit to at least three days of training, two meetings with the students/families before the journey and at least one debriefing meeting following the journey. Most importantly, each group leader must have a great attitude and know how to have fun!

1. Closely supervise the students during all waking hours of the journey.
2. Enforce all OUDC rules for behavior and expectations for participation
 - no sex, drugs, or alcohol
 - being present and meaningful engagement
3. Facilitate group learning and interaction (including):
 - provide necessary background information and guiding questions from students to critically evaluate and understand people, places and sites visited on the journey
 - survey and address problems with group interaction and cohesion
 - explain significance and relevance of planned activities before they occur
4. Attend and be "on" for all educational activities, meals and planned recreational activities on the itinerary.
5. Coordinate student leadership initiatives (including):
 - have the students thank speakers, donors, etc.
 - coach, observe and critique students as they give speeches and conduct television, radio, and print interviews
 - have the students write blurbs about their journey experiences
6. Provide updates to OUDC staff in Washington on an as needed basis
7. Fulfill all scheduled activities on the itinerary unless otherwise directed
8. Work as unified team with the Program Director and Journey co-leaders.

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We will conduct individual interviews between May 8-11, 2017 and finalists will have a group interview on May 12, 2017.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Ricki Horne, Program Director, at rhorne@oudc.org.