



The  
MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE  
FOUNDATION<sup>SM</sup>



## **Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights 2017 – 2018 Application**

Return by midnight September 15, 2017 to:

Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation

210 East Genesee Street,

Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066

-OR-

E-mail to: [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com)

Drawing on the life and legacy of Matilda Joslyn Gage, the **Gage Foundation Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights Program** inspires and empowers young women to become agents of change on the local, national, and global stage. High school-aged girls 15-18 years old, who are interested in social justice, are encouraged to apply. The Gage Foundation Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights Program is a comprehensive program offering girls the opportunity to facilitate dialogue about Social Justice issues in their community, connect with community social justice organizations, and participate in a social justice service project.

### **Program Description**

The 2017-18 Girl Ambassadors Program will focus on five social justice concentrations that champion the social justice work of Matilda Joslyn Gage:

- Women and Equality
- Modern Day Human Trafficking
- Gender Justice
- Religious Freedom
- Haudenosaunee Cultural Connections

Girl Ambassadors will:

- Be trained in dialogue facilitation
- Choose a concentration and be connected with a local community justice group in their concentration
- Facilitate and take part in dialogues with the community justice group to become an informed Ambassador
- Participate in three out of five offered community justice activities in

her concentration

- Share their experiences with all Ambassadors at general meetings
- Travel to the Akwesasne Nation in Northern New York during Spring Break
- Participate in three (3) fundraisers to fund the Spring Break Trip and the general program
- Present their Ambassadorship experience at an annual Conference hosted by the Girl Ambassadors, May 2018

### **Commitments and Responsibilities**

Girl Ambassadors commit themselves to:

- Attend a mandatory orientation meeting on October 8th 3-5:30pm
- Attend a mandatory Girl Ambassador sleepover/program planning session - Friday October 19th, 7pm - Saturday October 21, 11am at the Gage Center (No meeting Sunday October 22nd)
- Attend General Meetings, every other week, from 3:00-5:30 pm (please review the attached calendar)
- Each Ambassador is allowed three absences from general meetings. Coordinators must be notified of absences prior to meetings
- Attend three out of five sessions planned in your concentration
- Attend a Saturday day trip to a site in your concentration (Haudenosaunee Cultural Connection trip - First Spring Break weekend with an overnight)
- Volunteer five hours at the Gage Center
- Organize and host an end-of-the-year conference May 12, 2018
- Bring your Girl Ambassador folder to each meeting
- Access the Girl Ambassador closed Facebook site weekly.

**Please Note:** If you become unable to meet attendance or service commitments, and cannot complete the program this year, you can reapply the following year.

## **International Ambassadorship Opportunity - July 2018**

2017-18 Girl Ambassadors can choose to register to be a part of an International Ambassadorship Program, dialoguing with Girls in Ghana, West Africa, and then traveling to Ghana in July of 2018. Girl Ambassadors will have the opportunity to explore the five Social Justice Concentrations of this year's program on an International level.

Girls who choose to be an International Ambassador agree to:

- Attend an orientation/sign up meeting Sunday, October 8th 5:30-6:30pm
- Meet every other week from 5:30-6:30pm after the General Girl Ambassador Meeting. These meetings will be used to organize the trip and to explore cultural information for the trip to Ghana
- Take part in two (2) Saturday morning Skypes with Girls in Ghana (Dates TBA)
- Plan and Implement four (4) Fundraisers that will go towards ground travel/food/lodging/programming expenses in Ghana
- Pay a \$200 nonrefundable deposit by November 1, 2017 (Program participants will have the opportunity to fundraise their deposit through a candy sale in October)
- Pay for their air fare - estimated between \$900 - \$1,750 (we will have a final price on tickets closer to purchase.

### **Application Process**

The Gage Foundation Girl Ambassadors Program draws upon a diverse group of high school girls, accepting three Ambassadors per school. Applications must be received by midnight, September 15, 2017. Priority is given to applications according to the date received.

Once your application is submitted, it will be reviewed, and if your application is accepted, you will receive an email invitation to schedule a personal interview. Interviews will be held at the Gage Center time slots will be sent with your acceptance letter.

If your application is not accepted, you will receive an email notification, and are invited to apply again the next year.

## **Applicants Information**

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

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied to the Girls Ambassador Program before? Yes/No

10. Do you have a valid passport or are able to obtain one by February 1<sup>st</sup>?  
Yes/No

## Questions

The Matilda Joslyn Gage Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights program is an intensive social justice and dialogue program. Ambassadors are expected to balance this program with her extracurricular and academics. Please list the extracurricular activities you are involved in below, with one to two sentences explaining the extracurricular and your involvement. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

The Girl Ambassadors will be exploring five social justice concentrations. Groups within the program will focus on a particular concentration. Please number each concentration either 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 indicating your interest (1 being most interested, and 5 being least interested) in order to match Ambassadors to their desired focus.

#\_\_\_ **Human Trafficking** - working with the Pretty Girls Rocks program to explore issues of Human Trafficking, Disappeared and Missing Children and Women.

#\_\_\_ **Gender Justice** - working with local LGBTQ+ groups exploring issues this community faces in the modern world.

#\_\_\_ **Religious Freedom** - working with a girls group from the Islamic Society of CNY to explore issues Muslim women and girls face today.

#\_\_\_ **Haudenosaunee Connection** - working with young women from the Onondaga Nation in exploring issues the Native community faces.

#\_\_\_ **Women and Equality** - volunteer work with women's organizations in Greater Syracuse Area

## **Essay Section**

Please answer each question to the best of your ability. Type or neatly print your answers on a separate piece of paper and attach to your application.

-OR-

You may answer each question on a personal video. You should face the camera at all times. Be sure that the video is clear that that your voice can be heard at all times. E-mail your video to: [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com).

1. Who is Matilda Joslyn Gage, and how has her social justice work impacted on your life?
2. What do you think the role of an Ambassador is?
3. What would you bring to the program if chosen?
4. What do you think is the most challenging issue facing women in the U.S. today? Share your insights and observations on this issue.
5. Tell us about a woman or girl you respect as a role model, and why?

**Applicant's Parental/Guardian Consent**

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Girl Ambassador for Human Rights program description to which my daughter is applying. To the best of my knowledge, \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) has a clear understanding of the program that she has applied for, and, if selected, has my permission to participate.

Parental/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Reference**

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

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach reference letter to this application  
- OR -  
Have your reference e-mail it to: [griotwords@gmail.com](mailto:griotwords@gmail.com)

For questions or more information:  
Matilda Joslyn Gage Center: 315-637-9511  
Vanessa Johnson, program Co-Coordinator: 315-420-0152

## **2017-18 Girl Ambassador Calendar General Meeting Dates**

10/08/17 3-5:30PM  
10/20/17 7PM - Sleepover Center

11/05/17 3-5:30PM  
11/19/17 3-5:30PM

12/03/17 3-5:30PM  
12/17/17 3-5:30PM

01/07/18 3-5:30PM  
01/21/18 3-5:30PM

02/04/18 3-5:30PM  
02/18/18 3-5:30PM

03/04/18 3-5:30PM  
03/18/18 3-5:30PM

04/08/18 3-5:30PM  
04/22/18 3-5:30PM

\*First Spring Break Weekend - Mohawk Nation for Haudenosaunee visit

05/06/18 3-5:30  
05/12/18 - Annual Conference  
05/20/18 3-5:30 - Awards Ceremony

July 2018 - Ghana Trip