



GYC Official Affiliate Application Information & Instructions
Global Affairs & Affiliates

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Section I:

Brief Overview of GYC Mission, Vision, and Organization, Including GYC in the United States and GYC Affiliates Worldwide

i. Purpose of this Document:

There are two purposes to this document. The first purpose is to provide a general definition and overview of GYC, its mission, vision, founding principles, and leadership structure. This information is not comprehensive, but it is meant to help readers understand GYC as a movement, including its mission and goals. The second purpose is to guide prospective affiliates through the affiliation approval process. The first part of the document will define and clarify what GYC is and how it operates. The second part of the document will inform local youth leaders about how they can become official affiliates of GYC, and receive training, resources, and general support from GYC as a result. The third part of this document will contain application materials for local youth leaders to prayerfully and thoughtfully review, sign, and return to GYC during their approval process.

The following information has been written for local youth leaders in the Seventh-day Adventist Church around the world who are interested in organizing themselves into GYC-affiliated movements. The purpose of initiating official affiliate relationships between GYC and local youth around the world is to empower and equip youth to better support the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in their specific regions. This happens by adapting the GYC vision and training to local contexts and cultures both within and outside the church setting. These official GYC-affiliate relationships allow for greater effectiveness in world mission year-round.

Thank you for your interest in becoming an official affiliate of GYC. We need the interest of local youth to be able to partner with the world church in the most effective way possible. Please read through the following document as a way to better understand what GYC is all about, why your local youth groups want to be a part of the movement, and how to do so. We pray that if you become an affiliate of GYC, your experience will be blessed and multiplied in the Lord for His glory.

In Christ,

Generation. Youth. Christ.
Global Affairs & Affiliates Committee

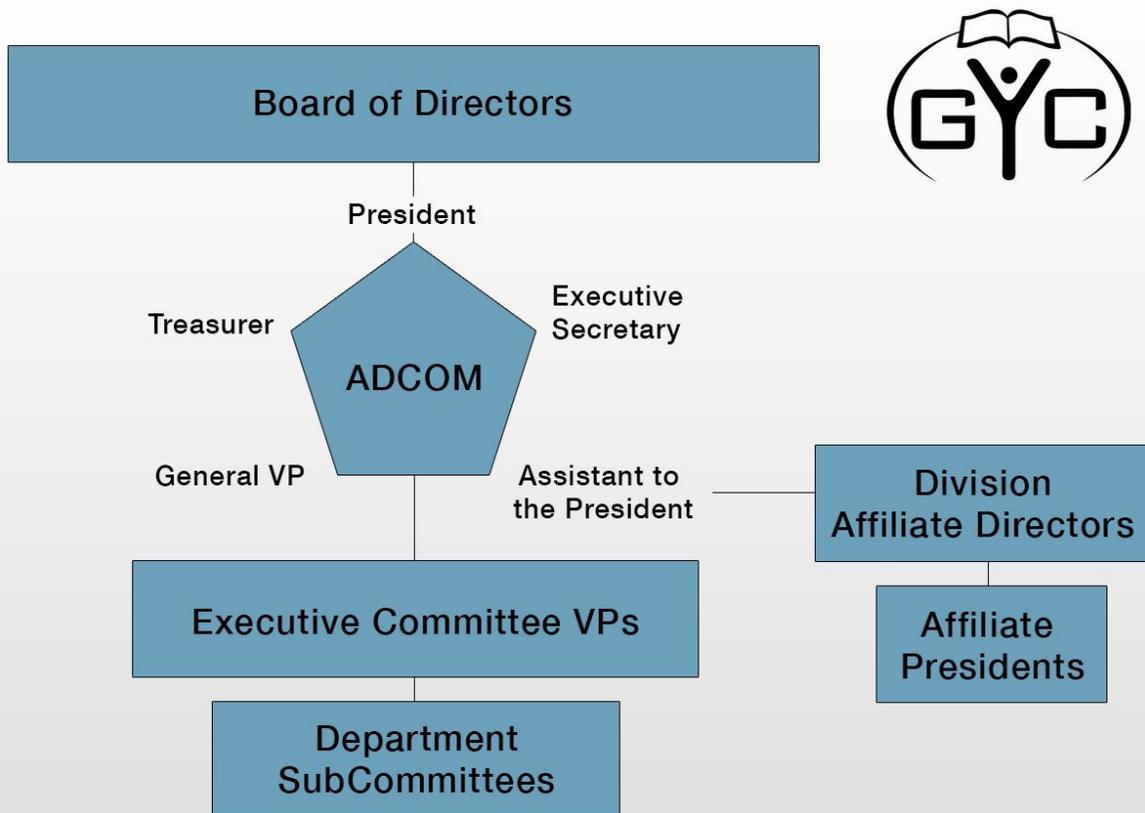
ii. Overview of GYC Mission, Vision, and Organization:

Please read through these few pages for a description of GYC, its mission and leadership structure.

- 1) [What Is GYC](#)
- 2) [Leadership](#)
- 3) [Mission Statement](#)
- 4) Vision for the Affiliates

The purpose of the affiliates is twofold. First, we seek to root Seventh-day Adventist young people in the message of the SDA church. As a church, we need a clear understanding of our identity in order to clearly ascertain our God-given role in these last days. Secondly, we must challenge each other to live an untiring lifestyle of self-sacrificing, soul-winning evangelism. We must model, demonstrate, train, and equip young people to experience what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

If this is your vision for your own life and other young people around you, then GYC is committed to help you make this happen in your local area.



iii. Role of Affiliates in the Overall GYC Mission:

The Affiliates serve as the primary extension of the vision and mission of GYC in their respective geographical regions. GYC has a physical limitation to its reach between annual conferences; therefore, the Affiliates are the primary communicators of that mission to young people in their respective geographical regions throughout the year. Affiliates play an important role with inspiring young people with a passion for mission in the context of the local church and for living a life of radical abandonment to God and service for man. These regional-level influencers keep the momentum of the mission vibrant, and tie the local church and its young people back into the global family of Adventist youth at the annual GYC conference.

Plan*:

- Conference
 - A venue to be inspired by speakers who uphold the authority of the Holy Bible and respect the Spirit of Prophecy. A place to receive training from presenters who embrace all our Fundamental Beliefs. An opportunity to network with others from a variety of backgrounds, ethnicities and geographic locations. A setting for quality music and a vibrant worship characterized by principle, reverence, and decorum. An occasion to be inspired by other young people sharing testimonies of what God is doing in their lives. A moment to experience a sense of God's call for your life and a commitment to live daily for Him, and to root Seventh-day Adventist young people in the Three Angels' Messages.
- Projects
 - You are called to encourage others in evangelistic endeavors that will inspire, train, and provide opportunities for young people to engage in a fervent lifestyle of evangelism. GYC is challenging you to be a part of the people who daily seek to lead people to Christ through participating and leading out in the cycle of evangelism at your local church. There are many ways to encourage involvement, including, but not limited to: giving personal Bible studies; having small group studies; handing out GLOW; preaching an evangelistic series; and participating in book printing, online sermon archives, regional youth conferences, mission trips, networking opportunities for young people around the globe, weeks of prayer, and youth camp meetings.

* In seeking to uphold the distinctive message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that GYC will promote among its participants, see [Spirit of GYC](#).

Section II: The GYC Affiliate Approval Process

i. Guiding Principles

As outlined above, the purpose of extending the GYC movement to include global affiliates is to combine the resources and training that GYC can offer with the region-specific expertise that local affiliates can provide. Having been in existence for over ten years, GYC in the United States of America has accumulated resource knowledge and institutional memory that can be of use to local movements around the world as they get started. Through a collaborative relationship, GYC and affiliates will work to tailor GYC-style programs and ministries to local audiences worldwide. The guiding principles of the affiliation process are meant to foster a positive working relationship between GYC and local affiliates.

We must emphasize here that the GYC-Affiliate relationship is *not* meant to be a direct export-import relationship where local affiliates simply adopt American GYC-style conferences and activities as they are, expecting them to automatically fit the local context and meet local needs. Many things about GYC as it functions in the United States of America, both as a conference and as a year full of ministry and activity, may need to be modified in order to fit a local audience elsewhere. It will take prayer and discernment in order to understand the biblical principles upon which GYC is based in order to take those principles and apply them in a culture-specific way around the world.

With the former points in mind, we are excited to be able to partner with you in order to bring the GYC experience to your local youth. We are committed to guiding you through the affiliation process in as efficient and effective a manner possible, to utilizing our resources to the best of our ability to aid in the process of establishing and maintaining the affiliate relationship, and to praying with and for our affiliates as you implement local GYC conferences, ministries, and programs throughout the course of the relationship. Below, we will explain the steps in the process for local youth movements around the world becoming official affiliates of GYC.

ii. Steps in the Process

Definition of terms:

- Prospective Affiliate: The local youth body that has an interest in becoming an official affiliate of GYC
- Official Affiliate: The local youth body once they have passed through the affiliation process and have been approved by GYC
- GYC: Refers strictly to the GYC conference and youth movement in the United States of America
- GYC _____
(e.g. GYC Southeast Asia): The title that may be proposed by prospective affiliates and adopted by official affiliates once their status as affiliates is approved. Please see below for titles in other languages.

Initiating the GYC-Affiliate Relationship:

- 1) **Initiation of Contact:** The Prospective Affiliate must contact GYC directly expressing their interest in becoming an Official Affiliate of GYC. Preferably, this contact is to take place via email, although other arrangements may be permitted if access to email is limited. Contact will be considered to have been initiated once the General Vice President of External Affairs (GVPE) has received notification of the affiliation request. The Prospective Affiliate may contact any member of the GYC Executive Committee, but all affiliation requests must go through the GVPE in order to begin the approval process.
- 2) **Prospective Affiliate-Regional Director Pairing:** Upon initiation of contact, the GVPE will inform the relevant Regional Director that a request has come in for affiliation from that director's region. The Global Affairs and Affiliates Committee, headed by the GVPE, will match the Prospective Affiliate with their respective Regional Director, who will work with them through the affiliate approval process. The Regional Director may involve his/her assistants and request help from fellow volunteers in the Global Affairs and Affiliates subcommittee through the approval process.

In the event that there is no Regional Director yet appointed for the region from which the affiliation request came, the GVPE may assign another Regional Director to see the Prospective Affiliate through the approval process.

- 3) **Alignment of Aims and Goals & Processing of Relevant Forms:** After Global Affairs and Affiliates subcommittee volunteers have been tasked to work with the Prospective Affiliate, GYC and the Prospective Affiliate will be in close contact to determine if the aims and goals of the Prospective Affiliate are in line with the aims and goals of GYC. If GYC determines that they are, then the Prospective Affiliate may fill out the forms in section III and return them to GYC, preferably by emailing them to the Regional Director, or by other means if necessary and as determined by GYC on a case-by-case basis.
- 4) **Approval of Application Forms & Voting on Approval Decision:** GYC Global Affairs and Affiliates Committee reviews the documents submitted by the Prospective Affiliates and either gives its vote of approval or denial to the Executive Committee for review. The Executive Committee then ratifies the decision of Global Affairs and Affiliates by vote.
- 5) **Communication of Approval Decision to the Prospective Affiliate:**
The GVPE communicates the decision of GYC regarding the affiliation approval process for a given Prospective Affiliate to that Prospective Affiliate. If approved, the Prospective Affiliate becomes an Official Affiliate and adopts the title of “GYC _____” as a region-specific entity. The GYC-Affiliate relationship begins, and programmatic and conference planning and implementation may begin.

If the Official Affiliate wishes to adopt an official title in the local language(s)/dialect(s), they may do so. This may be done in consultation with GYC, as GYC in the United States of America will use the English term to represent the Official Affiliate’s movement within the United States, whereas local youth may refer to their movement in their own language(s) and dialect(s). The indigenous term does not have to be a direct translation of the term in English, but should attempt to convey the same meaning and intent of the English term.

Maintaining the GYC-Affiliate Relationship:

- 1) **Routine Maintenance and Monthly Reporting:** Once the GYC-Affiliate relationship is initiated and approved, GYC and the Official Affiliate enter into an agreement whereby both parties will strive to maintain faithfulness and accountability to the other in all areas of the relationship. GYC will provide resources and training and the Official Affiliate will commit to using the resources and training received to conduct conferences, local training, ministries, and other

activities in a way that will meet the needs of and empower local audiences for ministry. In order to ensure that GYC is able to meet the needs of the affiliates, and assist in mentorship and accountability, a monthly report is required to be submitted on the 1st Sunday of every month. (The report will follow the guidelines as shown on the *Monthly Affiliate Update Form*). If monthly reporting is not maintained by the affiliate, GYC will seek an explanation and plan of action to ensure the lack of reports will not continue. If reporting continues to lack, then the affiliate will come in review in regards to their status of affiliation.

- 2) **Regular Contact:** Challenges will be dealt with prayerfully together, and successes will be celebrated together. GYC and the Official Affiliate will be in close contact for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs and events. GYC leaders may travel as time permits to attend Official Affiliate events, in which case GYC will fund the travel of the GYC representative, but the housing and food will need to be provided by the affiliate for the GYC representative (lodging may include sleeping on the floor, staying with a church member, church, school, or hotel). The Official Affiliate is encouraged to attend GYC events (and required to attend some -- see Section III for details). Close contact is to be maintained as much as possible between GYC and the Official Affiliate.
- 3) **Two-Year Review of Relationship:** The GYC-Affiliate relationship is to be reviewed every two years. The process of reviewing affiliates is the responsibility of the Regional Director assigned to a given Official Affiliate. The Regional Director will review the forms by which the Official Affiliate was approved and make sure that the Official Affiliate is in good standing regarding the standards outlined in the approval forms. This must take place before the GYC conference begins in a given year. Upon completion the Regional Director must submit confirmation of his/her affiliates via written report to the GVPE. This will allow a current record to be maintained of Official Affiliates to GYC. The review process will always operate on a two-year cycle, regardless of when the Official Affiliate was approved. The start date of the two-year review process for all Official Affiliates will be determined by the GVPE.

Every two years, the Official Affiliate must be found to have adhered to the *Spirit of GYC* by the leadership, programming, and relationships of a regional chapter. In the event that this adherence is called into question, the Regional Director and department assistant(s) will work with Official Affiliate leadership to find a resolution. If this does not lead to a mutually satisfying outcome, the concerns

will be reviewed by the GYC Global Affairs and Affiliates Committee at large with the direction of the GVPE. In the event that a satisfactory solution is not found, the Global Affairs and Affiliates Committee will solicit the counsel of the Executive Committee. If no satisfactory solution is found at that point, Global Affairs & Affiliates and the Executive Committee will submit a proposal to the GYC Board for the termination of the relationship between GYC and the GYC Affiliate.

iii. How to Utilize the Forms

- 1) **How to Become an Official Affiliate of GYC:** This form must be signed and returned to the Global Affairs & Affiliates subcommittee by the Official Affiliate President and Vice President in order to initiate the affiliate approval process.
- 2) **Program Planning Form:** You do not need to use this until you are planning a local event, be it a conference, training, or ministry event. Use the form in consultation with GYC to make sure that the event aligns with the values and mission of GYC, to be implemented in a local context.
- 3) **Annual Update Form:** This form needs to be turned in to your Regional Director on March 15 of every calendar year. In the form please include local leader names, positions, and contact information. Please also include Advisory Board names, positions, and contact information. Please also include a financial report (details in the form). Please also include any support needs and changes to your leadership structure, along with upcoming program information.
- 4) **Monthly Affiliate Update Form:** This form is to be returned every month following approval of affiliation with GYC. It is not meant to be comprehensive - it should be a brief summary of the past month and will provide a way to communicate between the Official Affiliate and the GVPE.
- 5) **Reference Form:** This form must be returned to the Global Affairs & Affiliates subcommittee by the Official Affiliate President and Vice President in order to initiate the affiliate approval process.

Section III:

Official Forms to Be Signed and Returned to Initiate and Maintain Affiliation



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How to Become an Official Affiliate of GYC

Please complete this form and forward to Taylor Hinkle, GYC General Vice President of External Affairs, at gvpe@gycweb.org.

Affiliate Name: _____

The following are guidelines by which youth-initiated grassroots organizations can become officially connected with Generation. Youth. Christ. (GYC) as a Local Affiliate of GYC (“Affiliates”).

Guidelines for Acceptance

1. Affiliates must be initiated and led by young people who are baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and in good standing with their local congregations.
2. Speakers, programming, exhibitors, and members of the Advisory Boards will be selected as they are in harmony with the [Spirit of GYC](#) and other applicable guidelines and supportive of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
3. Programs should not conflict with the annual GYC Convention, and as much as possible, official local conference events (ie. Camp Meetings and major youth events).

4. A GYC Affiliate representative will attend the GYC annual national convention every year.
5. GYC Affiliates will waive registration expenses for one official GYC representative to their local events.
6. The GYC Affiliate Logo will be used on all official advertisement, etc. without modification.
7. GYC Affiliates will invite the local youth director and conference officers to attend events.
8. GYC Affiliates will be called GYC _____ e.g. GYC Southeast.
If the Official Affiliate wishes to adopt an official title in the local language(s)/dialect(s), they may do so. This may be done in consultation with GYC, as GYC in the United States of America will use the English term to represent the Official Affiliate's movement within the United States, whereas local youth may refer to their movement in their own language(s) and dialect(s). The term in local languages does not have to be a direct translation of the term in English but should attempt to convey the same meaning and intent of the English term.

Existing Official Affiliates with different names than "GYC _____" may now work with GYC to adopt names with the "GYC _____" format.

9. GYC Affiliates will establish an Advisory Board to be approved by GYC and composed, where possible, of:
 - a. The President of the GYC Affiliate
 - b. 2 GYC representatives -- these must be volunteers from within the Global Affairs & Affiliates subcommittee, preferably from the regional department to which the Official Affiliate belongs
 - c. Local Adventist Leadership support in the following realms:
 - i. Professional
 - ii. Pastoral

iii. Youth

10. GYC Affiliates will submit annual updates by March 15th to the GYC Board for the Spring Board of Directors Meeting including:

- a. Updates on past and future conferences and/or ministry activities
- b. Challenges being faced
- c. Financial reports
- d. Changes in officers and directors

This relationship is to be reviewed every two (2) years. Please see Section II, ii. under subheading “Maintaining the GYC-Affiliate Relationship” for details.

By signing this document, GYC and the Official Affiliate agree to an official relationship under the above conditions. An official relationship means the cooperation of the two organizations towards fulfillment of their unified mission: to mobilize Seventh-day Adventist young people towards service for their church. GYC, its Board members, Executive officers, or any of its agents, do not take any responsibility whatsoever for the actions, finances, or legal responsibilities of any Affiliates.

Signed:

GYC Gen. Vice President (E)

GYC Official Affiliate President

Official Affiliate Vice President

Date

Date



**Generation. Youth. Christ.
Program Planning Form**

Date: _____

Location: _____

Type of Event (conference, project): _____

As part of the protocol for Youth Conferences affiliated with GYC, the following is a checklist that will be used to rate the effectiveness and success of your event. Please provide answers to the questions below along with supporting documentation (at least one recording of a session, the program schedule, etc.) with your application:

Is there a clear understanding of the GYC vision and mission among the leadership? Among attendees?

Is the aim of this conference or project to mobilize, equip, and inspire young people to be Christian ambassadors to their respective places of work and study?

Is the spirit of GYC, which simply seeks to uphold the distinctive message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, at the core of the program and all the activities taking place?

The above stated question can be more specifically defined by the following:

- Is there a Christ-centeredness throughout the whole program?
- Is there a visible respect for the Holy Scriptures?
- Is there an encouragement towards a daily quest for holiness?
- Is there a vibrant and reverent worship experience?
- Is there a passion for lost souls?
- Is there an encouragement towards cultivating godly relationships?
- Is there an encouragement towards leading an exemplary Christian lifestyle?
- Is there an encouragement towards cultivating enthusiasm for service?
- Is there a visible commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church through the support of its beliefs and principles?
- Is there an attitude of humility and cordiality when seeking to clarify and defend Biblical teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist church?

The following questions are in reference to the organization of the program of events:

- Is the arrangement of the program of events effective?
- Is there a systematic approach to keeping an ordered and controlled environment throughout program transitions? (i.e. ability to keep transitioning smoothly and timely; organization)
- Is the amount of adequate planning and preparation visible in the way the program is conducted and handled?
- Is there a network or ministry established that will continue to maintain accountability for the decisions made by the event attendees?

***GYC reserves the right to ask affiliates not to invite certain speakers to their conference.**



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Annual Affiliate Update Form

Due March 15 of every calendar year

Please complete this form and forward to Taylor Hinkle, GYC General Vice President of External Affairs, at gvpe@gycweb.org.

Date: _____ **Affiliate:** _____

Leadership Name/Role	Contact email/phone

Advisory Board Name	Role*

**Advisory Board Members should fulfill at least one of the following roles: Affiliate President; GYC representative (minimum of 2 persons); and local Adventist professional, pastor, and youth.*

Events	Immediately Prior	Upcoming
Dates		
Theme		
Speakers		
Attendance		

i. Financial Report:

Please attach to this document the following items:

- 1) Previous year's budget and actual expenditures
- 2) Current year's budget

ii. Support Needs:

1) Indicate any challenges the Affiliate may be facing. These may include external factors such as laws and regulations, or internal factors.

2) Indicate any other concerns or recommendations you would like to present to GYC for consideration in evaluation of this application.

Signature

Date



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Monthly Affiliate Update Form

Past Month

(What has happened recently?)

Next Month

(What's the plan for the next month?)

Votes Needed

(Any votes that you need from GYC)

Feedback Needed

(Any questions you need to brainstorm on)

Info for GVPE

(This is just an FYI section)

Upcoming Deadlines

(What are your upcoming deadlines?)



**Generation. Youth. Christ.
Reference Form**

Affiliate President:

Reference #1:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Relation to President

Reference #2:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Relation to President

Affiliate Vice President:

Reference #1:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Relation to VP

Reference #2:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Relation to VP

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Local Adventist Leadership Contact Information:

**Reference #1:*

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Title

**Reference #2:*

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Title

Reference #3:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Title

Reference #4:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address	Title

**Only two references are required, but you may provide more.*