



*Interested in making a difference in your community by volunteering? In learning about other religions? In deepening your own religious life?*

## **Introducing the InterAct Youth Fellows, Inaugural Class of 2009!\***

Join local high schoolers (grades 9-12) of different religious backgrounds in a semester of interreligious dialogue and community service! Small groups of religiously diverse teens will meet at most every 2-3 weeks from September-December (with a possible extension to May) to learn about and deepen their understanding of their own and other religious traditions while impacting the community through direct service. We do not come to persuade others or teach that all religions are the same but to understand and mutually appreciate. Meeting dates and frequency will be determined by participants at the first meeting.

### **Program Components:**

- Dia-practice:
  - a. Interreligious Dialogue: reflective conversation on religious, civic, and social topics
  - b. Service-learning: an integration of learning about social issues, direct service, and reflection
- Mentor: a trusted adult within the Fellow's religious community who supports the Fellow's experience
- On-line Discussion Board: Message Board where Fellows share thoughts, activities, events, questions, books, movies, and more with each other and members of the national interfaith youth movement

### **A Youth Fellow is:**

- Open to learning about and building friendships with teens of other religions while sharing their own
- Interested in deepening their own faith and involvement in their religious community
- Concerned with Cleveland's social issues and committed to making a difference through direct service
- Looking to develop their leadership skills

### **Impact of the InterAct Youth Fellows Program**

Preparing tomorrow's global leaders to be:

- Committed in their own distinct religious identity while appreciative and understanding of others
- Committed to actively addressing social issues
- Able to ask questions respectfully, listen fully, and speak with confidence

**Time Commitment:** One event at most every 2-3 weeks at participating congregations from September – December (with a possible extension to May). Special attention will be paid not to interfere with religious holidays. Meeting dates will be selected by the group at the first meeting.

Are you interested in becoming an InterAct Youth Fellow? Please contact Toni, InterAct Cleveland Volunteer Administrator, to receive more information. Applications are due June 12 at [tsacco@interactcleveland.org](mailto:tsacco@interactcleveland.org) or 1688 Fulton Rd Cleveland, OH 44113. For further questions, or to set up a presentation for your youth group or congregation, please contact Toni at 216-241-0230. There is no financial commitment to participate.

\*Note: This program is modeled after methods and programs of other interfaith and service-learning organizations. Please see our website for a list of references. [www.interactcleveland.org](http://www.interactcleveland.org) under Our Service Programs