

## Teacher-Mentor Expectations Minnesota and Global Youth Institute

*Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Youth Institute and the Global Youth Institute at the World Food Prize. Mentors are essential to ensuring a successful and meaningful experience for youth participants. The information listed is a reference to guide you in your work with students.*

### **I've been asked to be a mentor to a student – what does that mean?**

As a mentor, you will work closely with the student, between now and March, as they complete their research paper - which is their entrance to the Minnesota Youth Institute at the University of Minnesota. In addition, it is expected that you will attend the Minnesota Youth Institute Day on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

If the student(s) you mentor is selected to advance to the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute and International Symposium in Iowa in October, you will be expected to attend with them. If you are unable to attend, we ask that you select another teacher from your school to attend in your place.

### **What are the benefits to students for applying for the Minnesota and Global Youth Institute?**

- College readiness skills
- Exposure to STEM fields and career exploration
- Professional networking opportunities with leaders in science, industry and policy
- Career Exploration
- Networking with industry and diplomatic leaders from over 65 countries

### **What are the benefits to teachers to encouraging students to participate?**

- Networking opportunities with teachers, educators and broader
- Exposure to scientists and policy-makers
- Increased awareness for food security issues
- Enhanced connections to the U of M

Anyone participating in the Minnesota Youth Institute may apply for a paid summer internship at the University of Minnesota and will have access to scholarships if they are enrolled into CFANS at the University of Minnesota. Those students who advance to the Global Youth Institute may also apply for an 8-week all-expense paid International Internship and a 8-week paid internship with United States Department of Agriculture within the US.

### **I've agreed to mentor a student – now what?**

- Become VERY familiar with the Global Youth Institute documents that provide instructions for the students. They can be found at <http://z.umn.edu/mnyi> . Please note that papers by students who advanced to the Global Youth Institute from previous years are also posted at [z.umn.edu/mnyi](http://z.umn.edu/mnyi).
- Set a timeline for you and your student. You may want to consider regular check-in meetings to ensure they are on-track.

**DATES WILL CHANGE BASED ON THE YEAR-** Go to [z.umn.edu/mnyi](http://z.umn.edu/mnyi)

*Suggested timeline:*

**January 27: Online Registration Deadline**

Nov - Jan: Student should pick the country and topic of focus and complete initial research

Jan 27: Student submits outline to mentor

Feb 10: Student submits rough draft to mentor

Feb 17: Rough draft returned to student for final revisions

March 3: Final draft submitted to mentor for one last check

**March 9: 2014 Paper submission deadline**

April 12: 2014 Minnesota Youth Institute Day at the University of Minnesota

Oct 16-18: 2014 Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, IA and the World Food Prize Symposium

**We're ready to get started!**

- It is important that you, as the mentor, help guide the research
  - Assist in finding appropriate articles
  - Check the accuracy and reliability of the sources found by students
  - Provide support for students as they read more technical articles.
- Social bookmarking sites can be helpful for online collaboration.
  - [www.delicious.com](http://www.delicious.com) (bookmarking only)
  - [www.diigo.com](http://www.diigo.com) (can highlight and “post-it” note pages to share)
- Electronic Library for Minnesota can provide a multitude of resources
  - [www.elm4you.org](http://www.elm4you.org)
- If students are in a *College in the Schools* program, using the University’s library is extremely helpful.

**We're ready to write the paper!**

- Writing Guidance
  - **Organization!**
    - Make sure the paper follows the structure outlined in the instructions.
  - **Editing!**
    - Check for proper spelling, grammar and usage.
    - Help with style, sentence structure and word choice.
    - Check word count, font style and size to ensure alignment with requirements.
  - **Citations!!**
    - Ensure that all information is cited and cited correctly.
    - Look for areas where student language may be too close to the language used by the original author.

**The paper is done, now what?**

- Help your student prepare for Minnesota Youth Institute Day at the University of Minnesota
  - Guide students in preparing for their three minute presentation; a summary of their paper.
  - **Presentations must include:**
    - their country, topic, family, description of research findings and recommendations
  - Presentation scores will reflect the student’s ability to summarize their material in an interesting way within 3 minutes. The judges will ask questions following each presentation which may give the student another opportunity to share more about their research.
  - Students will each have a 10 minute personal interview with a team of 2-3 judges from the University of Minnesota’s World Food Prize Committee. They will have the opportunity to ask questions of the interview team during the interview
  - Based on each student’s research paper, oral presentation, personal interview and transcript review, students with the six highest cumulative scores will advance to the Global Youth Institute and World Food Prize in Iowa. Finalists will be notified within a couple of days following the Minnesota Youth Institute. Please note that if your student advances, you too advance.

**My student is selected to go to Des Moines; Congratulations!**

- The necessary information will be provided at the time of selection
- The World Food Prize falls on MEA weekend each October. Please reserve those dates for attending should your student(s) be selected to advance