

# Youth Justice Board



Are you interested in law and policy?



Do you want to help NYC teens?

Are you passionate about justice?



Have you or anyone you know been involved in the juvenile justice system?



**Speak your mind about issues affecting youth in New York City!**

The Youth Justice Board will help adult policy-makers reduce youth crime in New York City and plan a new youth justice center in Brownsville, Brooklyn, as well as...

- Go on a weekend retreat
- Meet with people who can make a difference
- See first-hand how government works
- Work with other motivated teens
- Prepare for college and careers
- Develop your writing and public speaking skills



**Want to apply?**

Call 646-386-5925 or visit

[www.courtinnovation.org/yjb](http://www.courtinnovation.org/yjb)

**Application Deadline: June 24**

**Info Session: June 16**

**take a slip below!**

Apply to join the Youth Justice Board 646-386-5925 or [yjb@courtinnovation.org](mailto:yjb@courtinnovation.org)

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YOUTH

JUSTICE

BOARD

**Application for New Members**

**2011-2012**

## What is the Youth Justice Board?

**The Youth Justice Board helps teens speak to New York City leaders about issues that matter to them!**

The Youth Justice Board is a group of 15 - 20 teens from all over New York City who work to make the City better for young people. Board members meet every Tuesday and Thursday to investigate an issue that affects their lives, come up with ideas about how to make things better and then work to make these ideas become reality. Through this process, members develop critical thinking, leadership and public speaking skills that will benefit them now and in their futures. The program meets at the Center for Court Innovation in midtown Manhattan.



*Members of the 2010-2011 Youth Justice Board*

**In 2011-12, the Board will work to reduce youth crime in New York City while supporting the development of resources for teens. As part of this work, members will advise planners of a youth-focused community justice center in Brownsville, Brooklyn.**

## What will I do?

In June 2011, the Youth Justice Board will publish recommendations about how to reduce youth crime in the City and create more positive opportunities for teenagers. Board members studied the experience of teens in Brownsville, Brooklyn as part of their research, and some of the recommendations address the specific needs of this community. Members of the 2011-12 Youth Justice Board will use these recommendations as a starting point to make positive, lasting changes that will help young people both in Brownsville and across the City.

*(Keep this page)*

# Is the Youth Justice Board right for you?

Are you passionate about justice?

Do you like talking about your ideas and hearing other people's ideas?

Do you want to make a difference on important issues?

Do you like working with other teens?

**Then we're looking for YOU!**

- Build your resume
- Get work experience
- Improve your college application
- Earn money
- Make new friends
- Have an experience that will change your life!

## What it means to join the Board...

Being a Youth Justice Board member is a very exciting experience. Members work with professionals in the City: lawyers, judges, probation officers, staff at the Mayor's Office and City leaders who are planning to build a new Community Justice Center in Brownsville.



In past years, members have:

- Published an informational comic book for youth about the juvenile justice system;
- Led trainings for judges and lawyers about how to work with teens;
- Written and published op-eds in newspapers;
- Designed and led educational workshops for teens;
- Made presentations at national conferences; and
- Testified before state and local legislative committees.

"Being a Youth Justice Board member was sometimes a challenge, but when I saw what I had accomplished in one year it was all worth it"

-Shayna, YJB member

## If you want to apply...

- You must be 14-18 years old by August 30, 2011.
- If you are under 18 years old, you will need your parent or guardian's permission to join.
- You must be allowed to work in the United States (if you have a Social Security Number, you are allowed).
- You must be able to go on an overnight retreat on September 9-11, 2011 (all expenses will be covered by the program).
- You must be able to attend meetings every Tuesday and Thursday from August 30, 2011—June 7, 2012. There will also be 4-5 longer workshops on weekends and school holidays.

Members earn stipends for participating in the program!

## HOW TO APPLY

**Send us your application by Friday, June 24, 2011. You can mail, fax, email it, or fill out a copy online.**

<b>Mail:</b>	Youth Justice Board Center for Court Innovation 520 8th Avenue, 18th floor New York, NY 10018
<b>Fax:</b>	(212) 397-0985 To: Youth Justice Board
<b>Email:</b>	yjb@courtinnovation.org
<b>Online:</b>	www.courtinnovation.org/yjb

**Important dates:**

<b>Friday, June 24</b>	Applications are due.
<b>Friday, July 29</b>	Finalists are picked. If you are picked, we will call you and ask you to come for an interview.
<b>Weeks of August 7 and 14</b>	Finalists are interviewed.
<b>Tuesday August 30</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Youth Justice Board session
<b>Weekend of September 9</b>	Retreat!
<b>August 30 2011 - June 7, 2012</b>	Youth Justice Board sessions, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 – 6:30 pm. (There will also be 4-5 workshops on Saturdays).

**For more information: Call (646) 386-5925 or email [yjb@courtinnovation.org](mailto:yjb@courtinnovation.org)**



*Members of the Youth Justice Board in action!*

*(Keep this page)*

# YOUTH JUSTICE BOARD APPLICATION

Send us these pages by **Friday, June 24, 2011** (instructions on how to send them are on the last page). Please fill out the whole application neatly with a black or blue pen or type your answers. **Do not use pencil.**

## Part I: Personal Information

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Apt. #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Neighborhood City Zip Code

Sex:  Male  Female Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in school?  Yes  No

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

Grade in 2011-12:  8<sup>th</sup>  9<sup>th</sup>  10<sup>th</sup>  11<sup>th</sup>  12<sup>th</sup>  GED program

Phone number(s): ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  Home  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_  Cell phone

Email address (print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you?  Phone  Email

How did you hear about the Youth Justice Board? \_\_\_\_\_

If from a Youth Justice Board member or alum, who? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you allowed to work in the United States?

Yes  No  Maybe/Don't know

Can you come to meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 – 6:30 pm, beginning in August, 2011?

Yes  No  Maybe/Don't know

Can you come on the weekend retreat, September 9-11 2011? (The program covers all expenses).

Yes  No  Maybe/Don't know



**3. What is something you are passionate about? Why?**

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**Part III: Your Choice: Please answer ONE of the questions below.**

**Option A: If you could have dinner with any person (fictional or real, living or not) who would it be and why?**

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**Option B: Submit something that represents you and what you will bring to the Youth Justice Board. It can be a poem or short story you wrote, an essay on a topic of your choice, a piece of art you made, or anything else you can think of! This is your chance to show us more about your personality and skills. (We cannot return submissions – please send a copy or photograph of your work.)**

**Part IV. Other responsibilities**

**Please check off any school and after-school commitments you MIGHT have in 2011-2012:**

- AP classes
- School clubs/afterschool activities (e.g. student government, choir)
- Sports teams
- Family (e.g. regular babysitting, picking up relatives from school)
- Test prep classes (SAT/ACT)
- College applications
- Other (explain below)

**We understand that your schedule can be unpredictable and become busy. What strategies will you use to make sure that you still attend Board meetings regularly?**

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**Part V. Recommendations**

Please submit two letters of recommendation. One should be from a teacher or guidance counselor at your school or from a staff person at a program. The second recommendation can be from any person that you choose (including a friend), as long as he/she is not a family member. The recommendations may be sent separately, but are also due June 24, 2011.

**Applications must be post-marked, faxed, emailed, or completed online by Friday June 24, 2011.**

**By mail:** Youth Justice Board  
Center for Court Innovation  
520 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10018

**By fax:** 212-397-0985  
**To:** Youth Justice Board

**By email:** [yjb@courtinnovation.org](mailto:yjb@courtinnovation.org)

**Online:** [www.courtinnovation.org/yjb](http://www.courtinnovation.org/yjb)

**Questions? Call (646) 386-5925 or email [yjb@courtinnovation.org](mailto:yjb@courtinnovation.org)  
Thank you for applying to join the Youth Justice Board!**