



Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights 2018 – 2019 Application

Must be received by midnight June 3rd, 2018.

Mail to: Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation
2010 East Genesee Street,
Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066

-OR-

Email to: Vanessa Johnson - griotwords@gmail.com

Drawing on the life and legacy of Matilda Joslyn Gage, the **Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights Program** empowers and inspires young women to become agents of change on the local, national, and global stage. Meetings, speakers, and activities delve into a wide range of topics. High school-aged girls, 15-18 years old, interested in feminism, social justice, global connections, and community service are encouraged to apply.

The Matilda Joslyn Gage Girl Ambassador Program is funded through private donations, grants, fundraising by the Girl Ambassadors, and an Annual Fundraiser organized by the Girl Ambassador's Parents.

During the 2017-18 program year, The Matilda Joslyn Gage Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights had the opportunity to:

- Facilitate Community Dialogues on Gender, Race and Stereotyping/Human Trafficking/Women and the Prison System/ Forming Alliances between American born, Immigrant, and Undocumented Women/Religious Freedom/Modern Day Colonialism and The Rights of Indigenous People.
- Participate in the Women's March in Seneca Falls.
- Host State Department visitors from Armenia/India/Uganda/Laos
- Serve on a United Nations sponsored panel as a part of the Commission on the Status of Women Series.
- Visit the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne for a cultural immersion program.

- Travel to Ghana, July 2018, to interview girls about Women's Rights and the Girls Education Movement in their country, and start a library in a small neighbourhood in Accra.

During the 2018–19 program year, the Girl Ambassadors will focus on **International Women's Rights Movements**, with a special emphasis on the **History of the Struggle for Women's Suffrage in New York State**. Ambassadors will examine and dialogue about the Intersectionality between Indigenous, International, and U.S. Women as we address the following social justice issues that Matilda Joslyn Gage championed in her lifetime:

- Haudenosaunee Sovereignty
- Women's Suffrage
- Human Trafficking
- Religious Freedom
- Transformative Justice

2018-19 Girl Ambassadors will have the opportunity to:

- Be trained as dialogue facilitators and dialogue within the Girl Ambassador group.
- Facilitate various Community Dialogues with girls, women and men from the Greater Syracuse Area.
- Participate in International SKYPE dialogues with girls from different countries around the World.
- Participate in Community Service Projects, including a voter registration drive for eligible High School students.
- Host "Gage Salons", a Speakers Series. Public events interviewing Women from various Professions and Walks of Life.
- Travel to Akwesasne (Northern NY) to learn about Haudenosaunee Culture during the 2019 Spring Break.

- Plan and Implement a Girl Ambassador's Conference and Reunion of Ambassadors from previous years.

Application Process

The Girl Ambassador program is a diverse group, recruiting girls from a wide variety of ethnic, racial, religious, gender, nationalities, urban, suburban, rural, and socio-economic identifications. We are accepting up to three new Girl Ambassadors from each High School.

We will review submitted applications, and then offer interviews to the applications that we feel are the most qualified.

- Interviews will take place at the Matilda Joslyn Gage Center - Friday June 8th 6-8pm, Thursday June 14th 6-8 pm, Friday June 15th 6-8pm, Saturday June 16th 12-6pm.
- Sign up information for time slots will be sent in an interview acceptance email.

Expectations

Ambassadors must complete the following requirements:

1. Attend an orientation meeting on October 14th 3:00 – 5:30 pm
2. Attend Meetings on Sundays, twice a month, 3:00–5:30 pm.
One meeting will be a business meeting, the second an activity.

9/9/8	11/18/18	3/3/19
First Meeting -		3/17/19
Girls and Parents	12/02/18	
9/23	12/16/18	4/7/19
		4/19-21/19
10/14/18	1/06/19	Spring Break Trip
10/26th-27th	1/20/19	
Training/Sleepover		5/4/19 Conference
	2/03/19	5/19/19
11/04/18	2/17/19	Awards Tea

*When possible, activities will take place during our normal meeting time on Sundays. Some required activities, Social Events, and Special Opportunities may be scheduled during weekdays, or on Saturdays. We will cancel a Sunday meeting, when possible, to accommodate these schedule changes.

2. Ambassadors are allowed 2 excused absences from Sunday Meetings.
3. Attend the Required sleepover/training session on Friday October 26th 7:00pm–11:00am Saturday October 27th.
4. Attend a Gage Foundation sponsored program in Seneca Falls.
5. Volunteer 5 hours with a Girl Ambassador Community Service Project.
6. Attend a Dialogue Training Session.
7. Facilitate two Girl Ambassador sponsored Community Dialogue, and one International SKYPE.
8. Participate in three fundraisers to help support the Girl Ambassador Program. (Applebee's Pancake Breakfast/Chipotle Restaurant Fundraiser/Third Fundraiser by Parents to Be Announced).
9. Attend Spring Break trip to Akwesasne (Northern NY).
10. Help Plan and Implement a Girl Ambassador's Conference/Reunion.

Applicant Information

Name:

Age:

Date of Birth:

Mailing Address:

City:

Zip:

E-mail:

Phone Number:

School:

School grade level Fall 2019:

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

Do you have a valid passport for travel into Canada during Spring Break Akwesasne Trip, or are able to obtain one by February 2019? Yes/No

The Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights communicate through social media, and use closed group sites available to Ambassadors and their Parents. We use Facebook and GroupMe. Are you able to access and use these social media sites? Yes/No

Extracurriculars and Community Involvement

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 activities and academics. Please list the extracurricular activities you are involved in below, with at least two to three sentences explaining the activity, and your involvement. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Essay Section

Please answer each question completely, and to the best of your ability. Type or neatly print your answers on separate pieces of paper and attach them 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, and that your voice can be heard at all times. Answer the questions as completely as possible. Email your video to: Vanessa Johnson - griotwords@gmail.com

1. Who was Matilda Joselyn Gage?

What is a Social Justice Issue, that Gage championed during her lifetime, do you feel most affects your life today?

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 United States today?

5. What are some activities that you have participated in, that have given you the opportunity to meet and interact with people from diverse racial, ethnic, gender, religious, physical or mental challenges, or socio-economic backgrounds?

How have these interactions impacted on your life?

6. 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.

- I understand that the Girl Ambassador Program is funded through donations, grants, and Fundraisers, and that my daughter is required to participate in 3 fundraisers during the program year.
- If my daughter is chosen as an Ambassador, I am willing to attend periodic Parent Group Meetings.
- I understand that the Parent Group will work with the Girl Ambassadors and Gage Center Volunteers, to help organize and implement one of the 3 fundraisers for the Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights Program.
- I understand that the Girl Ambassadors communicate through closed group Social Media Sites.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Applicant references

Name:

Occupation:

E-mail:

Phone Number:

Relationship to Applicant:

Please attach reference letter to this application - OR - have your reference emailed to: griotwords@gmail.com

Questions? Matilda Joslyn Gage Center: 315-637-9511
Vanessa Johnson - Program Director: 315-420-0152