



SMU | PERKINS

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

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PERKINS YOUTH SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Dallas, Texas – Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, is now accepting applications from high school juniors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area for its Youth School program.

The Perkins Youth School of Theology is a two-year program designed to facilitate theological reflection and service learning with an ecumenical group of high school youth who experience pressure in their lives due to their socio-economic class, racial minority or immigrant/refugee status, sexual orientation, and other high pressure environments. The main components of this program include Theological Service Learning, a Spring Youth Forum, and a three-week Summer Academy. The primary goal of Perkins Youth School of Theology is to engage high school youth in community service through leadership development and theological reflection on their service work.

Through this program, the youth develop relationships with Perkins and SMU faculty and staff, become more active in their churches and communities, and demonstrate a real heart for service work. The lives of youth as well as their families are positively impacted. The youth and their parents have become wonderful ambassadors for the program. The program successfully nurtures present and future leaders for churches and communities in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.

“I enjoyed being in PYST because it allowed me to examine my spiritual self. I believe programs like this help teens start thinking about their own spiritual and personal values,” says Erika Zamora, a previous program participant. Justin Washington, another participant agrees, “I have received a lifetime of memories and friends and spiritual growth. I became more knowledgeable about God and the church and had fun doing it.”

For more information about PYST contact Rev. Burton at 214-768-1333, or at their website at www.smu.edu/perkinsyouth.

Perkins School of Theology is one of five University-related official schools of theology of The United Methodist Church. The school was founded in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church South, now The United Methodist Church. Degree programs include the Master of Church Ministries, Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Music, Master of Theological Studies, and Doctor of Ministry degree, as well as the Ph.D. in cooperation with SMU’s Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences.

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