

SEAWORLD PARKS & ENTERTAINMENT



SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council

As a company dedicated to creating the next generation of conservationists, SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment values the input, critical perspectives, and leadership of young people who are passionate about animal stewardship and environmental conservation. The SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council gives young conservation leaders the unique opportunity to provide input and ideas about conservation initiatives, education programs, communication efforts, and strategies for reaching and engaging other young people across the country.

Applications are now open for the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council. Members selected through this process will join existing Council members and will commit to serving a two year term. **To apply, read over the details below and submit the following application by December 5, 2018 at 11:59 PM EST via e-mail to SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council Coordinator, Sean Russell, at srussell92@comcast.net.** Selected applicants will be notified of their appointment to the Council by December 31, 2018.

Qualifications:

Applicants for the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council must:

- Be between the ages of 14-20 at the time of application.
- Be a resident of the United States.
- Have a passion for conservation and education.
- Have the ability to work with a team of youth and adults to accomplish common goals.
- Have an interest in providing a youth voice to the work of SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment.

Roles and Responsibilities:

As a member of the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council you will:

- Provide ongoing input to SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment and their partners on topics including education programs, conservation initiatives, marketing/communications, and strategies for engaging youth audiences.
- Serve as an “Ambassadors for Conservation” in your community by remaining active in local conservation projects/programs and representing SeaWorld at conferences/events as opportunities arise.
- Leverage your peer networks and online platforms to share opportunities for other young people to become involved in SeaWorld’s environmental conservation and education programs.
- Oversee the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards Program.

Time Commitment:

- Participate in working conference calls on a monthly basis.
- Participate in small group calls/discussions on a regular basis as needed to carry out project work.
- Participate in one in person meeting per year (Dates TBA; travel expenses to all meetings will be covered).

SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council Application

Application Timeline:

- Applications will be accepted through **December 5, 2018 at 11:59PM EST**
- Finalists may be contacted for follow-up phone/video interviews.
- Selected Youth Advisory Council Members will be notified of their appointment to the Council by **December 31, 2018.**

Part 1 – Applicant Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Current Grade: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip code: _____

Social Media/Online Platforms:

Facebook URL:

Twitter Username:

LinkedIn URL:

Website/Blog/Other:

Parent Legal Guardian Contact information (complete if applicant is under 18):

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip code: _____

Have you visited a SeaWorld or Busch Gardens Park? Y/N If yes, which park? _____

Part 2 – Applicant Photo:

Please submit a headshot photo with your application. If selected to serve on the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council, this photo may be used for professional marketing purposes.

Part 3 – Essay Questions:

The following essay questions are an opportunity for you to share background information about yourself, showcase your leadership skills, highlight your interest in environmental and conservation work, and discuss your views on youth leadership.

- 1) Why do you want to serve as a member of the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council? (250 word maximum)

- 2) Describe a major animal or environmental issue that is of concern to you and explain how you think young people can work to address this issue? (250 word maximum)

- 3) Describe 2-3 experiences that highlight your passion for and interest in environmental conservation work. (500 word maximum)

Part 4 – Supplemental Materials:

Please provide a list of any conservation, environmental or animal stewardship organizations of which you are currently a member or leader.

Part 5 – Recommendation Letter:

Please secure one letter of recommendation from non-family members who can speak to your leadership skills, work ethic, interest in conservation and education, and life experiences. Letters can be from teachers/school administrators, youth organization representatives, employers, and peers. Letters should be limited to one page and include the recommender’s phone number, address, and e-mail address. Letters should be e-mailed by the recommender to srussell92@comcast.net and include the applicant’s name in the subject line. Recommendations letters are due by December 5, 2018 at 11:59 pm EST.

Part 6 – Agreement and Consent:

Youth Statement (to be completed by all applicants):

By signing below I confirm that the information included in this application is accurate and that I meet the requirements to serve on the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council. If selected as a member of this Council, I will carry out the roles and responsibilities of membership to the best of my ability.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Consent (if applicant is under the age of 18):

By signing below I confirm that _____ (name of applicant) has my permission to apply for the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Youth Advisory Council and if selected, I will support their participation in this program for a two year term.

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____