



THE INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH INITIATIVE PROGRAM



Youth Initiative Program Application 2017 - 2018

YIP 10



BEING HUMAN

I wonder if the sun debates dawn
some mornings
not wanting to rise
out of bed
from under the down-feather horizon

if the sky grows tired
of being everywhere at once
adapting to the mood
swings of the weather

if clouds drift off
trying to hold themselves together
make deals with gravity
to loiter a little longer

I wonder if rain is scared
of falling
if it has trouble
letting go

if snow flakes get sick
of being perfect all the time
each one
trying to be one-of-a-kind

I wonder if stars wish
upon themselves before the die
if they need to teach their young
how to shine

I wonder if shadows long
to just-for-once feel the sun
if they get lost in the shuffle
not knowing where they're from

I wonder if sunrise
and sunset
respect each other
even though they've never met

if volcanoes get stressed
if storms have regrets
if compost believes in life
after death

I wonder if breath ever thinks of suicide
if the wind just wants to sit
still sometimes
and watch the world pass by

if smoke was born
knowing how to rise
if rainbows get shy back stage
not sure if their colors match right

I wonder if lightning sets an alarm clock
to know when to crack
if rivers ever stop
and think of turning back

if streams meet the wrong sea
and their whole lives run off-track
I wonder if the snow
wants to be black

if the soil thinks she's too dark
if butterflies want to cover up their marks
if rocks are self-conscious of their weight
if mountains are insecure of their strength

I wonder if waves get discouraged
crawling up the sand
only to be pulled back again
to where they began

if land feels stepped upon
if sand feels insignificant
if trees need to question their lovers
to know where they stand

if branches waver at the crossroads
unsure of which way to grow
if the leaves understand they're replaceable
and still dance when the wind blows

I wonder
where the moon goes
when she is in hiding
I want to find her there

and watch the ocean
spin from a distance
listen to her
stir in her sleep

effort give way to existence

*By Naima Penniman from Climbing Poetree.
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[http://www.climbingpoetree.com/experience/read-poems/
being-human/](http://www.climbingpoetree.com/experience/read-poems/being-human/)*



INTRODUCTION:

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for downloading the YIP Application Form 2017 - 2018.

This Application Process will help you to decide whether YIP is the right next step in your journey and will enable us to get to know a bit about you, your ideas and inspirations. We hope that the poem above encourages you to present yourself in a bold and honest way.

An important aspect of the YIP experience is developing the capacity to be attentive to the source of your longings and motivations in the world. With this application process, we invite you to shed light on these motivations so we can better understand your wish to be here. We hope you enjoy this challenge and that you take your time to answer the questions authentically.

How do we decide your acceptance? We are looking for enthusiastic young people who have a deep seated interest in working towards a more sustainable future by fully engaging with themselves, others, their communities and the world. You need to be willing to consciously navigate the joys and challenges of community life and to take part in sculpting your learning. We are interested in your capacity and longing for initiative, the ideas and inspirations behind your actions and your ability to be reflective about yourself and these ideas.

Before continuing the application process, please read the “Terms and Conditions” of YIP under the “Apply” section of the website. This information will inform you about the practicalities of applying for YIP and will make your application process easier.
www.yip.se/application/terms_and_conditions



STEP ONE: WHO ARE YOU?

This part of the application is to get to know you and hear the reasons & inspirations as to why you would like to participate in YIP. For this section, please submit a 1 page Biography and 2-3 pages for the Call, Landscape and Horizon. We invite you to give individual responses to each of the bulleted tasks.

Formal CV (max. 2 A4): Your Education

Please list

- High School
- University and/or College
- Additional Courses/Diploma
- Work experience

Biography (max. 1 A4): Your Life

- Please write about your biography and include significant experiences and events that have shaped who you are today.

The Call (max. 1 A4): Your Impulse

- What inspires you to get out of bed in the morning?
- What drives you to participate in a program like YIP?
- What specific areas in YIP interest you most and why?

The Landscape (max. 1 A4): Your Influence

- Describe a time when you have shown and/or taken initiative.
- Name one aspect of yourself that you consider a strength and one that you consider a weakness. Describe how these have influenced your life.

The Horizon (max. 1 A4): Your Intention

- What do you want to have achieved five years from now? How do you see YIP contributing in getting you there?



STEP TWO: INITIATIVE

In this step of the application, we challenge your imagination and creativity. Based on a question, we ask you to give an example of an initiative you would like to take, and to translate your vision of that initiative into a fun and creative expression.

Your Initiative

Please describe, express and share your initiative in a fun and creative way, using the following question:

*What would you do towards a positive change in the world?
(If you knew that you could not fail, what would you do towards a positive change in the world?)*

You can consider to make a movie/collage/poster/poem/theater- movement performance/... etc. We look forwards to see, hear and/or experience your creative expressions. Please don't make them any longer than 5 min.



STEP THREE: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Under “Required Attachments” on the “Apply” page of the YIP website you can find more information about the following requirements and download the necessary files: www.yip.se/application/required_attachments

- **Reference Letters**
Two (2) Reference Letters have to be submitted by your referees to info@yip.se and therefore should not be sent in with your application. However, your application will only be completed and processed when we have received both references.
- **Health Report**
The provided medical report must be completed, signed and stamped by a qualified medical doctor.
- **Certificate of Proficiency in English**
If English is not your native language, you will need to provide a certificate of proficiency in English.
- **Portrait Photograph**
You must include a portrait photograph showing only your head (a passport photo or similar) with your application.

STEP FOUR: PAY YOUR APPLICATION FEE

The Application Fee for YIP is SEK 750.- It is not refundable. YIP charges this fee to cover some of the costs of processing the applications. To pay, go to the website and click on “Pay Application Fee” under “Apply”. Make sure you keep a transfer receipt and send it in along with your application. www.yip.se/application/fee



STEP FIVE: REVIEW YOUR CHECK-LIST

Please review the check-list below and make sure that all the required attachments are ready to submit:

STEP ONE: WHO ARE YOU?

- ☐ Biography
- ☐ The Call
- ☐ The Landscape
- ☐ The Horizon

STEP TWO: INITIATIVE

- ☐ Your Initiative

STEP THREE: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- ☐ Reference letters (Just a reminder: the reference letters have to be sent in by your referees and therefore should not be sent with your application. However, your application will only be processed when we have received both references.)
- ☐ Health Report
- ☐ Certificate of Proficiency in English
- ☐ Portrait Photograph

STEP FOUR: PAY YOUR APPLICATION FEE

- ☐ Application fee paid
- ☐ Proof of payment/transfer receipt included in attachment

STEP SIX: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION!

After reviewing your checklist and making sure your application is complete, you have two options for submitting:

By E-mail to: info@yip.se (subject: Application YIP8 + Name)

By Post to: Youth Initiative Program Admissions
Kulturcentrum Järna 25
15391 Järna, Sweden



Congratulations!

You have reached the end of your application process.

It is our sincere hope that this experience has been both a joy and a challenge and that it has perhaps brought you closer to understanding what it is that you are striving for with the life that you have.

Best wishes, and good luck!

-The YIP10 Organising Team