The 2014 Connecting Young Nebraskans Summit to be held in Kearney

Kearney, NE – Kearney, Hastings and Grand Island are coming together to create a dynamic conference for young leaders across the state of Nebraska. This conference is the fourth CYN Summit where young Nebraskans gather to share ideas, energize each other and envision a brighter future for our state. On November 7th, young Nebraskans from across the state will be gathering in Kearney for the 2014 Connecting Young Nebraskans (CYN) Summit. An evening social is planned for November 6th to showcase the community and allow time for young Nebraskans to network.

The CYN Summit is the annual gathering for the Connecting Young Nebraskans network which is sponsored in part by the University of Nebraska Rural Futures Institute and is led by CYN Coordinator Kayla Schnuelle and a governing group called the CYN Steering Team, which is made up of 16 young Nebraskans from across the state.

Each year the CYN summit is coordinated by the steering team and a host community team. The host community team is comprised of representatives from the Kearney, Hastings, and Grand Island communities. “Young leaders from the tri-cities are excited to join forces to offer the state a dynamic conference, centered on professional and personal development,” says Mary Berlie of Grand Island, a member of the host community team. This regional team has already come up with many ideas to make an unforgettable experience for young Nebraskans.

Penny Parker, host team representative, says, “There are a lot of exceptional young people in Nebraska that impact their local communities in both big and small ways! Having CYN in Kearney will allow those from all across the state to meet in middle, LITERALLY!”

“I’m so pleased to be working with the tri-city region to plan this event. In years past, the summit planning teams have been confined to a small geographic region, but this year the tri-city region has come together and they are collaboratively planning what I expect to be an amazing event. This collaborative mindset will serve the region and state well in the future,” says Kayla Schnuelle, CYN coordinator and Marketing Communications Specialist for the University of Nebraska Rural Futures Institute.

“The programming at the summit will provide valuable take home information for the attendees and priceless networking opportunities with engaged individuals across the state. The relationships created will be beneficial for a lifetime! What’s better than sharing best practices with your friends and neighbors? I think we all win when we work together for the greater good of Nebraskans,” Penny Parker said.

Keynote speaker, Joe Gerstandt will deliver an exciting, message about “brave new leadership.” His message will put the power of authenticity, divergent thinking, and constructive conflict to work toward driving more creativity and innovation for young Nebraskans. Joe will explain the social architecture and individual practices required to unleash creativity and innovation in organizations, communities or collaborative efforts.

“Being bold and thinking differently about opportunities and challenges is what this summit is all about,” said Jordyn Lechtenberg, UNL graduate student. Not only will participants exchange ideas and build relationships with other young leaders across the state, attendees will experience a unique experience that provides resources and tools to grow professionally, personally, and as a civic and community leader. In creating new ideas through CYN, we are able to understand and respect our differences while working towards a unified goal of becoming a great state to live and work.
Connecting Young Nebraskans (CYN) is a statewide network designed to connect, empower and retain young Nebraskans. CYN strives to enhance opportunities for individuals to impact their communities through networking and learning experiences. The network is a dynamic and diverse group of peers with a passion for making a difference, a willingness to learn and the desire to build important relationships to help shape the future of Nebraska.

Registration will open on August 1, 2014. For the latest details see our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/youngnebraskans. Join us for the 2014 CYN Summit!

#   #   #