

**INTERNATIONAL YOUNG ADULT CONGRESS
400 YEARS:
HUMANISM, SPIRITUALITY & ART**



1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

This Congress would consist of a group of 100 young adults between the ages of 18 to 30, whose profile fits the following characteristics:

- Young Adults who we know and maintain a relationship with.
- Persons with a desire to grow as individuals and to contribute who they are and to help in the construction of a different world.
- Persons capable of internalizing, relating who they are, and sharing their experiences with others.
- Persons who desire to deepen their faith experience and know more about the person of Jeanne de Lestonnac, her life, her Project and how it contributes to our life and to this historical moment.
- Young Adults willing to begin a “spiritual and multi-culture journey”. Most importantly to experience a personal encounter with God, and with all, like a true Christian community.
- The variety of participants is going to be enormous, so will the experiences, therefore, the young adults will have to be conscience that they will attend a congress where various languages will be spoken and where great sensitivity must be shown to, the very different points of view and experiences present.
- The congress will take place within a simple and humble framework.
- The young adults do not need to have (specific) artistic abilities, if they have them, great; what will be asked of them is for them to have a favorable attitude toward expressing, through art, their experiences lived throughout the whole process including Bordeaux and Taize, which will be done within a small international group.
- Be open to new ideas, to service, to journey a spiritual path, and to be willing to integrate into the international group.



2. THE CONGRESS' CONTENT

The congress will consist of two phases:

a. Each context:

Each context will have had a previous preparation to the Congress. Common reflection guides will be provided to each context. This will help prepare the attendees (to):

- deepen the personal and communitarian faith experience.
- contemplate life and share it... Experience the daily activities and know how to transcend them.
- deeply reflect on the Life and Project of Juana de Lestonnac and show its effects within each historical moment.
- have the needed resources available in order to work the artistic dimension that will be (chosen).
- each participant will register in three workshops by order of preference, when the groups are formed, each person will receive confirmation of the workshop in which he or she has been assigned to.
- possible conferences by zones or provinces as a preparation to the congress in Europe.

b. International Level, July 2007:

- **Bilbao: July 7-9 for the young adults coming from America and Spain.? Confirmation is pending.**

We will travel to Bordeaux July 9.

- **Bordeaux: July 9-12**

To meet as a group and get to know each other and journey together to places and symbols that speak about Jeanne de Lestonnac and her Apostolic Project.

We must be in Bordeaux by July 9 in the early afternoon.

We will travel to Taizé on the evening of July 12.

- **Taizé: July 13-16**

To meet with other young adults from other parts of the world and get to know their thoughts on spirituality and internalize their faith experience as well as their experience of the prior phase.

July 13, Friday, will be dedicated to synthesis of the Bordeaux phase.

We will travel to Orvieto-Italy- Monday July 16.

- **Orvieto: July 17-22**

To express the experience in creativity by means of various artistic manifestations, structure, and workshops: painting, sculpture, music, drama, dance...

We will have various festivals, it all depends on the budget: festival of cultures, gospel, music...etc.

July 22 end of Congress

3. COORDINATION AND ORGANIZATION

Two Key moments:

a. Prior to the Congress:

A religious sister or a lay person from every contingent will be responsible to accompany the reflection of the young adults in the reflection previous to the Congress and of

- acting as the liaison between the team (coordinator) of the Congress and/or with the pastoral delegate of the respective province.
- motivate the young adults to participate in this experience.
- assure that the participants respect the criteria to be part of the Congress.
- carry out the formation reflection process.
- contribute as many suggestions as the participants see necessary.
- look for scholarship sources in your context.

b. During the Congress:

From the participants that have been responsible in each context, some will be chosen to participate as facilitators in the Congress in Europe.

It is important to have a balanced number of religious sisters and laity that will accompany this part of the process.

The persons responsible of the workshops may be part of the whole Congress as well as being facilitators, depending on each situation.

6. BUDGET AND MEANS TO FINANCE

The following are the expenses that would be included in this (budget):

- Travels:
From the country of origin to Barcelona or Bordeaux
Bordeaux - Taizé
Taizé- Orvieto
- Room and Board:
Bordeaux
Taizé
Orvieto
- Materials of the workshops...
- Insurance...
- Festivals...
- Others...

Other points to keep in mind:

- The economic aspect cannot be a cause for non participation.
- Every context will be responsible to finance their participation.
- We need to look for benefactors, everywhere; the General Team and Coordinating Team would like participation of young adults from Africa, Asia, and Latin America...

M. Luz Sarabia and (Coordinating Team)

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