



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION PRAIRIE STAR DISTRICT

Dear Ministers, Directors of Religious Education, Newsletter Editors, and Leaders of Prairie Star District:

The Annual Conference Program Committee is accepting workshop applications for the 2011 Prairie Star District Annual Conference. You will find a link to the application on the Prairie Star Web page <http://www.psdoua.org/AnnualConference2011>. We hope you or others in your UU community will consider this opportunity. Please feel free to post this letter and reference to the application, publish the information in your newsletter, and make Sunday morning announcements. The workshop application deadline is **Monday, September 27, 2010**.

We are planning a conference that will promote a multigenerational UU experience. Our goal is to include attendees of all ages to foster leadership development and grow our UU community. We are reaching out to include first time conference attendees, young families, children, youth, and adults. Our featured speakers and new conference structure promise to engage us in multigenerational conversations. In addition, there will be resources for new and seasoned leaders, art and musical events, the democratic process of the annual business meeting, awards and a celebration of voices, hearts and minds, young and old together.

Date: April 8-10, 2011

Host: First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

Location: Holiday Inn, Des Moines IA

Theme: It Matters What We Believe

Keynote Speaker: Rev Dr Kendyl Gibbons

Judy Lecture: Rev. Dr. Brian Eslinger

It is our expectation that workshop presenters will participate fully in the conference, complete the registration materials, and pay the appropriate registration fee. Exhibitors also are expected to pay an exhibit fee based on the hotel contract. Cooperation in this is greatly appreciated as it helps keep the conference affordable for all attendees.

In order to foster a multi-generational community at this year's conference, we are soliciting youth-friendly workshops for last workshop session on Saturday afternoon. Youth (7th - 12th graders) participating in a weekend conference will return to the hotel in time for this workshop, and will be encouraged to attend! As such, special attention will be paid to workshop applications that focus on issues of interest to middle school and high school students, as we are hoping to engage them as active members of our UU district community. We look forward to your creative and fun ideas!

Workshop applications should be completed on-line at <http://www.psdoua.org/AnnualConference2011> (preferred). Hard copies may be sent to Robin Taylor at the address listed on the application by **September 27, 2010**. The Annual Conference Program Planning Committee will consider all applications and make a final decision shortly after that date. We look forward to receiving your workshop application and hope you will join us in Des Moines.

Sincerely,

The Annual Conference Program Planning Committee

Gina Dugan and Stan Nichol, Co-Chairs

Laura Shennum

Robin Taylor

Mike Schwab