



YOUTH WORLD

"To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right."

NO. 75



**A STEP
FORWARD**

PLUS MANY MORE!

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FEB 2019

Inside YW75



3 YW Editor's Message

4 Happy TOF Month!

5 A STEP into Asia! *Toshiki Sugo's short-term exchange trip to Taiwan.*

6 MY AYR! *A look at the 2018-2019 Area Youth Representatives (AYR).*

7 MY AYR! cont'd: *Your AYRs answer an ice breaker question.*

8 The Area India Youth Convocation (AYC) 2018.

9 Y's Shout outs! *A look at some great personal and club achievements from our Y's youths.*

10 Contact Us

YOUTH WORLD No. 76

You have a voice and we want to hear it!
Tell us about all the ways your club has been making a difference in your community. Please send your articles (300 words max.) and pictures to stephanie@ysmen.org.

The deadline for submission
is 15 April 2019

"Just living is not enough... one must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower."

—Hans Christian Andersen



Cover image courtesy of the Y's Man Rita Hettiarachchi

YW Editor's Message



Photo courtesy of Pixabay

Welcome to Youth World 75!

February is the shortest month of the year, and one of the most special months for Y's Men International. The main emphasis for this month is our Time of Fast—Global Project Fund (TOF-GPF) month.

The TOF-GPF project, historically, was to assist the Young Men's Christian Association's (YMCA) projects. Since then, the TOF-GPF initiative has helped thousands of communities around the world. The concept of fasting allows us to empathise with our fellow brothers and sisters of the world, for whom hunger is not a choice, but an everyday reality.

Along with our TOF-GPF emphasis month, in this Issue, we will take a look at Toshiki Sugo's participation in the STEP programme in Taiwan. We'll also 're-celebrate' with Area India's Area Youth Convocation (AYC), and read the responses to our annual ice-breaker question from a few of our Area Youth Representatives (AYRs).

Please enjoy YW75, and thank you for your continued support. I close, with a word of encouragement to continue in the strength of your purpose to help others.

***"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power"
Ephesians 6: 10 (NIV)***

Stephanie Spencer
Youth World Editor

Happy **TOF MONTH!**

It's not too late to participate!

The TOF-GPF programme was established in 1972 to support developmental projects all over the world. These projects are typically community driven and are managed by local clubs of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) and Y's Men International (YMI). These projects bring about a positive change in a community and are geared towards helping persons to become more self-sufficient and also improve their quality of life.

**For more information on YMI International Campaigns, please visit:
<https://ysmen.org/international>**



A STEP INTO ASIA

Y's Man YAMAMOTO Goshiro | Area Asia

(Extract sent to the Youth World Magazine by ISD Rita Hettiarachchi)

A STEP (Short Term Youth Exchange Program) report as documented by RSD STEP—Japan East Region, Yamamoto Goshiro about STEP participant, SUGO Toshiki.

Sugo Toshiki is an active representative of the Chuo University YMCA *Hitsujigumo*. The Chuo University YMCA *Hitsujigumo* is associated with the Tokyo Hachioji Y's Men's Club. Based on his dedication to the club, and his high involvement rate in club activities and events, he was recommended by the Hachioji Y's Men to participate in this cultural exchange with the Kaohsiung (The Port) Y's Men's Club. This exchange was made easier due to the fact that the two clubs share a close relationship as International Brother Clubs.



He was also able to visit other Y's Men's clubs, including Taipei Daqiao Y's Men's Club and Taichung Y's Men's Club. This meant that in addition to being in Tainan, he was able to visit other areas of Taiwan such as Taipei, the capital city of Taiwan, and Taichung.

Toshiki's international cultural exchange experience did not end there. After completing the STEP programme in Taiwan, he returned to Japan in August 2018 to participate in the 17th International Youth Convocation in Yeosu, Korea. He was joined by other Japanese Y's youth, including: Jin Nagasaka, Miyauchi Soya, Hirakawa Mayumi, Arai Miho, and Senmyoji Sakuya.

Once Toshiki returned to Japan, he gave a well-received presentation about his STEP experience at the Tokyo Hachioji Y's Men's club and the Japan East Region Board of Directors. ■



As a part of his STEP curriculum, Toshiki undertook a language study programme in Taiwan for approximately four months, from April 2018. Upon his arrival in Kaohsiung, he was greeted by the officials of the Kaohsiung YMCA, as well as other members. During his stay, he visited elementary school students and played soccer and other games with them.

Editor's note: What a wonderful experience for our youth to be able to share in the culture and knowledge of other countries. I congratulate Sugo Toshiki on taking this step. If you're also interested in participating in the STEP programme, please read pg. 9 for more information and contact details. I hope to hear your STEP story soon!

My AYR!

Curious about who your Area Youth Representatives (AYR) are? Check out the following list of AYRS for the 2018-2019 period and keep in touch!

(2018-2019)

Chairperson	Sherin Wilson	India
AYR Africa	Pierre Stephane M. A. Diboundje	Cameroon
AYR Asia-South Pacific	Candy Lin (Interim)	Taiwan
AYR Canada/ Caribbean	Natasha Lelievre	Canada
AYR Europe	Andrei Kalmykov	Russia
AYR India	Diya Vijayan	India
AYR Korea	Kwang-jin Kim	Korea
AYR Latin America	Leandro Salcido	Brazil
AYR USA	Matthew Rodriguez	USA



To have a little fun, we asked our AYRs to introduce themselves and answer a fun ice-breaker question, stated below:

"What skill would you like to learn for 2019?"

As you read their responses, I challenge you to answer that question yourself, and most importantly, work towards it.

Natasha Lelievre – AYR Canada/Caribbean (CAC)



This year I plan on learning calligraphy! I started bullet journaling (if you haven't heard of it, check this out: <https://bulletjournal.com/pages/learn>), and one of the great things that I want to add to my journal this year is calligraphy. I have plans to attend workshops in my area, and I will just keep practicing until the skill gets better! If things end up working out, I also hope to make a friend's wedding thank you cards by hand with my new-found skill!

Diya Vijayan – AYR India

The skill which I wish to learn or improve is my reading skill. In that way I can improve my knowledge. It would also help me to develop my vocabulary too. I'm also a classical dancer, and I would like to practice more and improve my skill, and add another dance form to my portfolio this year. The dance is known as 'Kathak'.



Andrew Kalmykov – AYR Europe



I'd love to learn to draw concept art and character design. I've been passionate about drawing ever since I was a kid. Although it was never my goal to become a professional artist, I'd still like to be able to express myself through art.

THE AREA INDIA YOUTH CONVOCATION (AYC) 2018

AYR Diya Vijayan

| Area India



The Area India 2018 Area Youth Convocation (AYC) was held at Montfort Spirituality Centre, Bangalore, from 28-30 December. The theme for the event was "Yes, We Can". A total of thirty-six youth participants from all regions within the Area were in attendance.

The Opening Ceremony commenced with a kickoff and team formation session. After the first session, 'AYC Do's & Don'ts', Rev Dr Sham P. Thomas introduced the AYC theme and spoke about the "power of positive thinking". The first group activity was a public speaking competition, which the youth actively participated in.

On the second day, there were many motivational speakers who shared their life experiences with the youth:

Dr M I M Nehruzii, who has extensive experience in the corporate world, encouraged the youth with an enthusiastic session called "You Are the Key". This was followed by a session

by Dr K. Radhakrishnan. Dr Radhakrishnan is strongly tied to the success of the Indian Space programme. He is the lead space scientist who headed the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Mr. Abhishek Prasad encouraged the youth to go after their passions.

A compelling presentation delivered by Mrs. Pragya Prasool Singh whose life was significantly changed by an acid attack, shared her painful yet amazing journey of recovery after such a cruel attack.

After a full day of lectures, the youth participated in a Panel Discussion with Y's Man Koshy Mathew, the editor of *YMI World*, serving as the moderator.

After dinner, there was Talent Night by a camp fire. All the participants were eager to show off their talents. Finally, the impactful day ended with Christmas and New Year celebrations.

The final day began with a session hosted by the India Area President Y's Man Day K C Samuel. After, the youth were given the platform to provide feedback comment on the AYC, to suggest possible improvements that could be made for future AYC's.

The AYC ended with the announcement of the individual and team winners of special AYC events and final farewells. ■

Y's Shout Outs!

Area Canada/Caribbean



At 12 years old, Y's Man Dominic Wynter has accomplished great feats at his current school, Munro College in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. He has gained the position of Champion in the male division of The Gleaner's Spelling Bee Competition, and he has also topped his year group (of 300 students) in the subject of Industrial Technology, with a pass mark of 100%.

As he continues to pursue his academics, he remains committed to the Mandeville Y Service Club, and had served as Club Treasurer for the Mandeville Y Service Club in Manchester, Jamaica.

—Mandeville Y Service Club

Holiday Presents!

In our region in Canada, we collect clothes (including pajamas) and other small gifts to donate to the women and children's shelter Interval House. We often launch social media campaigns and have great success! At our club's end of year dinner meeting, we gather all the donations together and designate one member to lovingly deliver the items to the shelter.

It's a really fulfilling to be able to give during the holiday season!

—Natasha Lelievre,
AYR Canada/Caribbean

Area India

Spend a Day, Spread your Love

The India Area Youth Project: "Spend a Day, Spread your Love" was implemented at West India Region on December 1st 2018, at Sree Mookambika Balika Sadanam, Chalad, Kannur, in partnership with the YMC of Cannanore Metro of District 5. International Treasurer Y's Man Philip Cherian, ICM Y's Man Jose T M, District Governor of District 5 Y's Man Shaji, and members of YMC of Cannanore Metro, were able to attend.



On that day, we celebrated Christmas and New Year with residents of the Sree Mookambika Balika Sadanam.

—Diya Vijayan,
AYR India

Our **Y's Programmes** will take you to the next level...

STEP

If you want to be an international ambassador for Y's Men International, join the STEP and YEPP programmes today!

Short-Term Exchange Programme (STEP)

Suitable for Y's Men and Youth who wants to travel the world and make a difference all in one trip!

Participants are able to:

- Spend 3-11 weeks with a Y's Men's family in another country or region.
- Develop critical self-management skills.
- Learn about the customs, cultures, and languages of their host country or region.
- Learn about the activities of Y'sdom world-wide.

For more information on STEP, eligibility and application details click [here!](#)

YEPP

Youth Educational Exchange Programme (YEPP)

Suitable for Y's Youth between the ages of 16-18 years. Students (i.e. the participants) must be able to commit to a 12-month educational exchange programme to reap the benefits.

These benefits include:

- Creating global, and often, long-term friendships.
- Developing the traits and skills of a mature and responsible youth.
- Learning about the customs, cultures, and languages of their host country or region. (In most exchanges, students develop a proficiency in the language of their host countries.)
- Learning about the activities of Y'sdom world-wide.

For more information on YEPP, eligibility and application details click [here!](#)

Still want to join? Contact Rita Hettiarachchi (Service Director for the STEP&YEPP Programmes) at ritahetti@gmail.com to apply!

CONTACT US



Image courtesy of Pixabay

STAY 'INSTA' CONNECTED!

Your pictures tell a thousand words. Showcase your club projects and activities by contributing to our Instagram page!

Follow us on Instagram. We go by @ysmeninternational, of course.

Please send all comments and inquiries to Editor Stephanie Spencer at stephanie@ysmen.org



FACEBOOK

Want to know the latest on what's happening in your Area? Keep 'in the know' by visiting the following Facebook pages.

Y's Men International

Africa

Asia-South Pacific

Canada/Caribbean

Europe

India

Korea

Latin America

USA

Since
1922

FEB 2019

| 10