



IC 2011 ATTENDANCE GUIDE

A Message From Your Chairpeople



Introduction

This attendance guide has been prepared for you as a delegate to the 61st Annual USY International Convention on December 25-29, 2011.

The upcoming five days will be the culmination of months of planning on the part of many individuals. We have attempted to provide the best Convention programming. We hope that creative and imaginative ideas centered around our theme and highlighted by special programs will make this Convention an exciting and meaningful experience for you and for our organization on an International level.

Study Theme

Derech Eretz

Jewish Ethics and Values

The educational theme this year is Derech Eretz. USYers will have an opportunity to explore different aspects of ethical living in many different ways including small group discussions and larger plenary sessions with the full Convention body.

In only a matter of days, the 61st Annual USY International Convention will become a reality! Hundreds of the friendliest USYers from all over North America will gather in Philadelphia! As a participant in this most special event, you can look forward to some of the most incredible programming ever implemented at a USY Convention. Together, as a community, we will discover the true meaning of the word hevra.

We hope the upcoming five days will be an exciting and meaningful experience for you, full of creative and imaginative programming centered around our theme. The theme of this year's Convention is Derech Eretz--Jewish ethics. In our programming, we will explore how to live an ethical Jewish life. We will engage with Jewish text, debate ethical dilemmas

and learn how to apply Jewish values to our own personal ethical challenges.

*** Get psyched for exciting programs including a full convention-wide Zimriyah (song festival) featuring the awesome A Capella group Six13, a super-fun International Treasure program, Marc Elliot, Hanukah programming, Awards, SATO projects, and more!

There will also be special sessions related to chapter and regional leadership and programming. Enjoy an incredible Opening Session, a Birthday Party for USY's 60th, and reunions for USY Israel Pilgrimage, USY on Wheels, USY High, Ramah Programs and much, much more! Our continuing goal is to provide a warm, friendly environment for each USYer who attends International Convention. The unity cre-

ated by our praying, singing, dancing and celebrating will be like none you have ever experienced. Friendships are created, even by just saying hello to the person standing next to you in the elevator!

There are a few key words that are vital to a successful Convention. Some of these words are assertiveness, enthusiasm, promptness, participation and cooperation. This Convention is for you. We ask that you take advantage of each and every opportunity, and not waste any of the precious moments we will share together.

We cannot wait to meet you in person in Philadelphia. See you at International Convention 2011, where USY will Light Up Your Life!

Your Chairpeople,
Ellie and Shira

A Terrific Hotel: The Philadelphia Marriott Downtown

The Philadelphia Marriott is located right in the heart of Center City Philadelphia. From an awesome and exciting opening session to excellent programs to free time spent singing around the piano to just being with old and new friends, it's going to be fabulous for everyone at Convention.



Celebrate 60 Years of USY



On Monday evening we will join together with Six13 A Capella for a Zimriyah (Song Festival) celebrating 60 years of USY. Each region will help us relive and remember 60 amazing years of USY. We'll celebrate each decade of USY's history, honor our past International Presidents and enjoy the unique music of Six13 A Capella.



It's Hanukah!

This year, we're lucky enough to spend three nights of Hanukah together! Join us as we light the Hanukiah together each night.. Rejoice with close to 1000 others as we sing and dance together.

Social Action Projects

USY has a long tradition of helping those in need and taking stands on important issues through our Social Action/Tikun Olam program. This year, we will be participating in a variety of projects which will help children, the elderly, the poor, people with disabilities, lone soldiers or those who are sick.

We are also asking that everyone attending Convention please bring one can of tuna as well as used cell phones or eye glasses which will be donated.



Reunions

Special reunions for 2011 USY on Wheels, USY Israel Pilgrimage, and USY High, as well as reunions for Ramah Seminar and Ramah Camps, are only open to those USYers who have registered for the entire Convention. Wear your T-shirt on Monday and help spread the word about these exciting programs.

Fantastic Programs

Of course, no International Convention would be complete without some outstanding evening programs. This year will be no exception. We'll start off on Sunday with an exciting Opening Session and the International Treasure. On Tuesday we'll honor eight USYers who have shined in their home regions for their mitzvot and acts of lovingkindness in the Eight Nights of Hanukah. Wednesday afternoon we'll hear from Marc Elliot who will share with us an inspiring story about tolerance. Finally, on Wednesday night, we'll conclude Convention at our awesome Birthday Party 2011 which we promise will be spectacular.

What To Wear at IC 2011

Attire is casual during all of the Convention – including Wednesday evening's installation. For the Birthday Party, please wear BRIGHT/ NEON colored clothing.

Included in this pre-Convention e-mailing is the USY Dress Code. We expect that you will adhere to this code at all times during the Convention. The weather in Philly can be VERY cold in the winter. Please be sure to bring warm clothing.

Reunions, Reunions, Reunions: Did you participate in USY Israel Pilgrimage, USY on Wheels, USY High or the Ramah Camps/ Ramah Seminar this summer? Please bring your group T-Shirts with them for the reunions which are on Monday afternoon.

Please note, you will not be allowed to wear "flip flops" on the Convention meeting floors – please bring appropriate footwear.

Males are required to bring Tallit, T'fillin and a Kippah. Those females accustomed to wearing Tallit and T'fillin are encouraged to bring theirs too. Please note: USY will not be held responsible for lost or stolen property. There will be a set procedure to follow for Tallit and T'fillin storage and we expect that you will follow this procedure.

Convention Code

One of the strengths of USY is that it is composed of such a large variety of different individuals with similar goals. It is designed to improve individuals through the teaching and sharing of Jewish ideals and practices within the Conservative Movement. In order to accomplish this, rules must be made, and obeyed by all.

LEAVING THE HOTEL at any time during the Convention is prohibited, except when indicated on the schedule.

CONSIDERATION for other hotel guests, and for hotel property, is expected from each attendee as a representative of USY. Each individual will be held fully accountable and financially responsible for any damage whatsoever to hotel or other property.

CURFEWS have been set for each day. Each attendee, as a representative of his or her chapter, will participate fully in the Convention program. Disregarding curfews will interfere with your full participation in the program and is, therefore, unacceptable.

SEPARATE FLOORS have been allocated for males and females. At no time will any boy be permitted in a girl's room or a girl in a boy's room.

CONVENTION ADVISORS will be available to help attendees abide by the Convention code and help them gain the most from the program.

PROMPTNESS AND ATTENDANCE at each session are essential in order for each attendee to gain the most from Convention. The schedule will allot sufficient time for each activity and each attendee is expected to cooperate accordingly.

BADGES must be worn at all times. The badge serves as your only ticket to meals and sessions, and enables those of you who are voting delegates to secure a ballot for the elections.

NARCOTICS, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND SHOPLIFTING are strictly prohibited. Anyone in possession of or found using illegal drugs, narcotics or

alcoholic beverages, or found to have shoplifted, will be sent home as quickly as possible at his or her parents' expense. This includes taking prescription drugs that are not prescribed for you. In addition, the individual will be prohibited from participating in any International USY programs and activities (including summer programs) for a period of one year following the offense. The USYer's Region reserves the right to impose additional sanctions in connection with this or any other improper behavior as it sees fit. The Convention code here is very strict and there are no second chances. Any violation of this rule is a violation of the law and can jeopardize the entire Convention program.

HANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING

For the safety and welfare of all convention participants, and in accordance with hotel fire safety standards, no one is permitted to light Hanukah candles in his or her hotel room. Each night, we will light candles together as a community during a General Session.

CELLULAR PHONES, TWO-WAY RADIOS and other electronic communications devices are disruptive to the Convention program. Cell phones are prohibited during tefillot, classes, meals and other Convention sessions. Two-way radios and other electronic communications devices are prohibited at all times.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION is strongly suggested for all Convention attendees. This will be needed if you lose your Convention badge or sleeping room key.

SMOKING is strictly prohibited at all times during the Convention, both in and outside of the hotel.

MEALS always begin with Birkat Hamotzi and end with Birkat Hamazon. It is essential that each attendee be at meals on time.

PLEASE NOTE: Participation in any part of the Convention program is limited to those people who have paid and registered for the entire Convention.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

There will be three or four people to a room.

SPENDING MONEY

Everyone is reminded to bring a reasonable amount of extra spending money. Such funds can be used to purchase books from the Convention Book Sale and USY regalia, and for Tikun Olam. All meals will be provided. You may wish to bring additional funds for souvenirs and snacks.

SUPERVISION

Every group of nine USYers is accompanied by an advisor (19 years of age or over). Advisors will be assigned by (and with the approval of) the regional USY office on the basis of standards set by the International Youth Commission. In addition, hundreds of adults from our host district will be present throughout the Convention to help provide a safe Convention for all.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions contact your Regional Youth Director. You can also contact your Convention Chairpeople:

Ellie Carr and Shira Goldstein
e-mail: usyconvention@uscj.org

**Follow all of the excitement
of IC 2011 on Twitter!**

www.Twitter.com/USYIC2011

**We'll be "Tweeting" daily
from Philly!**



**Share
this link
with your
parents
please!**

Your Convention Co-Chairs

Ellie Carr and Shira Goldstein Invite You to the



IC 2011 Birthday Bash!

Please wear Neon/ Bright Colors!

Wednesday December 28, 2011

Following the Installation of the 2012 Officers

Marriott Philadelphia Downtown

Franklin Hall



International Tikun Olam

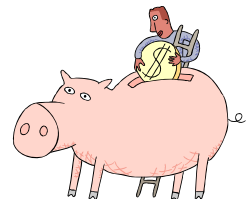


COIN CHALLENGE '11

At Convention, you'll have the opportunity to engage in a healthy competition called the Coin Challenge '11. All proceeds of the Coin Challenge will go directly to the Tikun Olam Fund.

Each region will place their collected money in their designated regional money boxes. The winning regions will be those with the most **TOTAL** money and those with the most money **PER PERSON** at Convention. There are no special point values for different forms of bills or coins (each region will be credited towards Tikun Olam for the money it raises).

Canadian regions may submit Canadian or U.S. bills (no Canadian coins please!). **Please note, pennies will NOT be counted towards your total.**



December, 2011

Dear Convention Participant:

We are looking forward to having you with us at International Convention this year. One of the objectives of our Convention is to spend 5 days living together as Conservative Jews, feeling the daily rhythm of Conservative Jewish life.

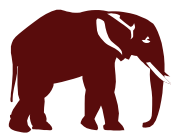
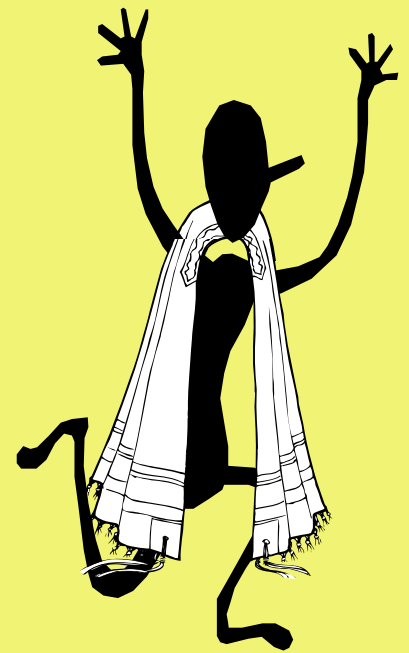
An important mitzvah or practice associated with daily Jewish living is wearing a *kippah* (at least during meals and *t'fillot*, prayers), and wearing *tallit* and *t'fillin* at *shaharit* (morning) services. All male participants at the convention are required to bring and use these items. All female participants are encouraged to bring and use these items as well.

We recognize that you may not own these items. Please be in touch with your synagogue rabbi or your regional director to borrow *tallit* and/or *t'fillin*, so you will be able to fulfill this obligation. There will be people available to help those who need a little extra guidance. If you need additional information on purchasing or borrowing these items, you may also contact Amy Dorsch in our office at 212-533-7800, ext. 1115 or dorsch@uscj.org.

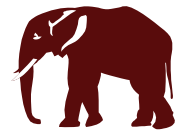
Convention is a time when we come together to practice Judaism as a community, sharing common traditions and trying new experiences. Please be sure that you are able to fulfill this important obligation, and be in touch if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Jules A. Gutin, Director



REMINDER



DON'T FORGET...

If you are traveling to the International USY
Convention by Airplane...



YOU WILL NEED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

You will also need it in the event that you lose your
convention badge or room key.

**1 Grand Prize of
\$1,000**

5 First Prizes of \$500

Win as much
as \$1,000 in
Scholarship for
a USY Summer Program!

Apply Today!

Send in your application
today and you will still be eligible
for the raffle!

**Let USY
help you
make your
Escape in 2012**

USY
Great
Summer
Escape.

Bring your completed
application to the USY
Convention Office by
Tuesday, December 27th.
A drawing will take place
and winners will be
announced at the end of

USY Summer Programs

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
212.533.7800, ext. 1146—youth@uscj.org

Appropriate Dress Policy for United Synagogue Youth

Tzniut (modesty) is a long-standing Jewish value. As a people who see ourselves as reflecting the image of God, our Jewish community believes we should act accordingly; thus, some things are not appropriate, for they do not reflect our Jewish values. How we dress is a basic example of these values.

"The privacy which Judaism requires of sex (in Hebrew, *tzniut*, modesty) affects our clothing, our speech, and our public activities. We may dress in accord with the styles of the times, but never should our apparel accentuate the sexually arousing parts of our bodies. Thus sexually suggestive or revealing clothes for either men or women are not in keeping with Jewish law or sensibilities." (Rabbinical Assembly, Rabbinic Letter on Intimate Relations).

This policy represents the minimum expectations for modest and appropriate dress at USY events. It is divided into two sections, one for all USY activities and the other for Shabbat. We have included only the section for all USY activities. Your Regional Youth Director will provide additional expectations for Shabbat dress.

BASIC USY STANDARDS OF DRESS

- 1. Clothing on which any profanity or inappropriate language, pictures or symbols are written, printed or depicted is not permitted.**
2. No visible underwear is permitted for both males and females.
3. During Tefillot, inappropriately short skirts or shorts, or tight garments, are not permitted; shoulders must be covered for both males and females.
4. Tank tops, 2-piece bathing suits (except where midriff is covered), bare midriff styles, halter-tops, leggings, or see-through blouses are not permitted.

Medical Information

USY International Convention 2011

As you know, winter is the flu season, and flu gets spread around when people travel and live in close quarters with people from other places. Accordingly, we want to take a preventive approach to keeping everyone as healthy as possible. We will be providing nursing coverage and will have physicians in the infirmary (Suite 690) for sick call several hours each day:



Sunday December 25, 2011

11:00 AM- 2:00 PM
9:00 – 11:00PM

Monday December 26, 2011

7:30AM - 8:30 AM
Noon-1:00 PM
10:00-11:00 PM

Tuesday December 27, 2011

7:30-8:30 AM
5:00-6:00 PM
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Wednesday December 28, 2011

7:15-8:15 AM
1:00-3:00 PM
9:00PM - 10:30 PM

Thursday December 29, 2011

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

In an attempt to use infirmary resources for urgent needs, your Regional Staff will be provided with extra supplies of basic health items (including feminine products, Band-Aids, cough drops, and first aid supplies). Contact staff members from your region (rather than the infirmary) to access these.

You can make your convention more fun if you do a few simple things.

Hand washing (with soap) is the best way to prevent transmission of the flu. Your parents have been telling you to wash your hands for years. In this case it actually does make a difference.

Get adequate sleep at the convention. We know that it is a great time to make friends, talk into the wee hours, and generally not waste a moment when you could be with the gang. But it is still better to sleep a few hours a night than to spend a couple of days sick in bed.

Drink a lot of water. Sweet drinks are better than nothing, but if you can just chug that H₂O, it will keep you healthier. We're looking forward to an exciting and **HEALTHY** convention. Thanks for your help!



The Spin-Off

Dreidel Challenge

Wednesday - December 28, 2011 - Noon

Can You Spin It?

DONATIONS!

Make a Difference at
**INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION**

Please bring any used cell phones and eye glasses in good condition to be donated to those in need.

In addition, please bring ONE can of TUNA to be donated.





Nativ Photo Contest

Like Getting Creative? Have a camera? Heard of Nativ? Well take this opportunity to use the attached sign in a “creative photo” that not only shows off the Nativ logo but also shows us how creative you are. All pictures will be presented in a slide show at the Israel Booth at IC and the winning picture will get a prize from the Nativ Program.

Send picture to nativ@uscj.org by **December 15th**



* www.nativ.org * (212) 533-7800 ext. 1119 * nativ@uscj.org *