

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

17100 Quaker Lane

Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860-1267

301-774-7663

fax: 301-774-7087

info@bym-rsf.org

Welcome to JYM 2016!

As Annual Session approaches, the JYM staff become excited about sharing what we have prepared with your children. We are ready to begin! The “child friendly” JYM theme of Annual Session is: *Settle In/Become Clear Together/Help Others*.

Although some things have changed with this year’s program, most notably, the site of Annual Session to Hood College, the basic structure of our program remains the same as in the past. **Nursery provides care for our 0-4 year-olds**, in their own space, morning afternoon and evening. Our **elementary children** divide in the morning by age, and then gather together for unstructured play in the afternoon and evening. This year, the two older elementary groups, 2nd through 5th graders, have been combined for the morning class. **The Junior Young Friends (rising 6th through rising 8th graders)** meet for their own program for morning, afternoon and evening.

JYM begins Tuesday afternoon and ends at the close of Saturday afternoon session. With only two exceptions, Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening, all JYM programs meet mornings (9:20-12:10), afternoons (1:50 to 4:10) and evenings (7:20-9:10.) Be sure to see the JYM Schedule for exact times each day. Also, see the section below on **Special Programs** for details about Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening programming.

Staffing and Rooms:

You will probably become familiar with most of our workers throughout the course of the week; you will most definitely become acquainted with those who help coordinate their program area:

- Melanie Gifford organizes the **nursery /Pre-school**. If you have a child from 0yo to 4, they will spend much of their time with Melanie and other workers in the second floor of Coblentz Hall. Room 231 and the Lounge. The children will enjoy activities from reading stories, Legos, drawing, painting and “zoom/zoom/zooming our “vehicular fleet”
- Morning Classes for the **Rising K through 5th graders**, are taught by
 - Kathy Funkhouser assisted by Ruth Fitz will teach the Rising K and 1st graders on 2nd floor Coblentz Hall lounge and Room 229
 - Virginia Avanesyan and Windy Cooler teach Rising 2nd through 5th. They will be assisted by Young Friends on the ground floor of Coblentz Hall, (Gaming Room but minus the gaming!)
- **Afternoon and Evening Programs** for rising K through rising 5th graders are coordinated by Karen Cunyningham and Charlotte Boynton and will meet in Coblentz Hall, ground floor, gaming room.
- Kat Darnell will coordinate the **JYFs** activities during morning afternoon and evening. She will be assisted by variety of adults. JYF’s will meet on the ground floor of Coblentz Hall (Cheryl Brown Dreiling Seminar Room)

Safety Procedures

Hood College is an open campus therefore not secure. Whether your child has chosen not to attend their scheduled JYM program session or there is no scheduled JYM program, **if they are not in a JYM program your child(ren) should be directly supervised by their parent, guardian or designated alternate**. Children who are seen roaming campus without an adult will be asked to return to their parent/guardian or program.

JYM programs begin approximately 10 minutes before the adult programs (Business Meeting /Workshops /Committee meetings/ Plenary) and close about 10 minutes after their scheduled ending time so that you can get to your programs on time and know they are settled and safe. (This year, to make it easier for parents to leave an extended Business Meeting, a bell will ring shortly before noon.)

Friends in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia

www.bym-rsf.org

It is crucial for **parents/guardians of children up to rising 5th graders** to sign their children in and out of our programs. Unlike younger children, ***the JYF's who have their parent's permission***, may sign themselves in at the beginning and out at the end of each session.

Special Program Events:

On **Wednesday afternoon**, there is an Intergenerational Plenary. This year Lauren Brownlee and Jen Court, both of whom work with youth, will lead the program with children in mind. It is intended to be a family event, but it is often hard for the youngest (nursery/preschool) to benefit from it. Therefore, the nursery will be open but the other JYM program will not meet, so that everyone can enjoy this program.

Thursday afternoon traditionally is a JYM swimming event. All programs will run as usual for those who do not wish to go, but it is a very popular event and parents like to tag along. There is a swimming pool on the campus which may be open at other times for family and individual use. Definitely, bring a swim suit!

On **Thursday evening**, we have a time of fun, games and ice cream with all ages. It is a great time for our community to meet and know people of other age groups and a time when the children get to share a craft activity with the rest of our community.

On **Friday night** JYFs have a lock in sleep over. They should bring a sleeping bag for that night.

Saturday night finds us tired and laughing at the Coffee House. The children often preform in group or solo acts.

Non Program times to be especially noted:

- **Parent Co-op**

JYM afternoon program ends at 4:10 and there is **no JYM from the end of workshop/committee time until dinner**. In the past, parents and guardians have joined together to form Parent Cooperative to cover the care of rising K through 5th graders during this time period. Parents who want their children to participate must sign up to work one shift at the Planning Meeting, Wednesday afternoon or, if not able to attend at, at the Afternoon Program (Please read your Daily Minute for details about Planning Meeting.)

- **Morning Worship sharing**

Although there is no JYM during the worship sharing hour, there is a worship sharing group especially for people attending with children. Quiet play things are provided which help the children's hands keep busy, while the rest of the body stills and their mind attends to what is said. It is a very special worship sharing group because of what they contribute.

- **Sunday Morning**

There is no JYM but there is child care for **those children of parents attending business** meeting. (It does not extend to the Meeting for Worship, which is intended for all in the community)

Volunteer for a session

Participating in Junior Yearly Meeting is fun for adults as well as children. We encourage all parents/guardians, and anyone else who's interested, to volunteer in a JYM program for a couple of hours once during the week. You can sign up with a JYM teacher when you arrive. Consider joining us on our expedition to the community pool.

Scent Free Atmosphere

We emphasize BYM's encouraging attenders to refrain from wearing perfumes or using scented toiletries. Please have your child use unscented shampoo, sunscreen, etc. during our time at Hood College, and please don't bring anything scented (toys, markers, modeling clay) to class. If you don't already use a fragrance-free laundry routine, it would be very helpful if you could do an extra fragrance-free load with the linens and clothes your child will be using at Annual Sessions.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact either of us through our email addresses above. Being at a new site brings us adventure, and lots of opportunities for snafus. We hope that you can be both understanding and let us know about anything that might need tweaking.

We look forward to seeing you in August!

Ellen Johnson Arginteanu and Carol Seddon Phillips, JYM Co-Clerks

Friends in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia

www.bym-rsf.org