

About TEDxKIDS @SMU

What happens when 350 middle school students, 60 high school “TEDx counselors” and 15 TED-caliber speakers spend four hours together on a Friday afternoon in Dallas, Texas?

Unbridled energy. Out of the box thinking. That spark that comes from having a one on one conversation with someone you had only read about in the newspaper. The passion that comes when you realize you CAN one day be the person you dream of becoming.

The TED model of conferences are an ideal platform to present new, engaging ideas to the next generation of scientists, engineers, artists, doctors, marketers, inventors and entrepreneurs. Short, bursty presentations by astounding thinkers on a broad array of topics ranging from the science of yo-yos to space exploration take students out of the classrooms and into a setting where the teachers are the people actually thinking up and executing these big ideas.

Get something. Give something.

As part of our commitment to the students in the Dallas area, we offer this program free of charge for students to attend. Students must apply to attend, either as individual applicants or through schools or after-school programs. In addition to completing the application requirements, students must commit to completing a service learning project. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for one of several volunteer experiences coordinated through TEDxSMU (including hosting their own TEDx events in their schools or with their friends and families), or to propose a service learning project of their choosing.



TEDxKIDS @SMU
Friday, October 15, 2010
12:30-5:00p
The Wily Theatre, Dallas, TX

Applications available starting August 9, 2010

For more information and to apply:
www.TEDxSMU.org/TEDxKids

About TEDxKids @SMU

Friday, October 15, 2010 | 12:30-5:00pm | Dee and Charles Wylie Theatre, Dallas, TX

The TEDx and TED model of conferences are an ideal platform to present new, engaging ideas to the next generation of scientists, engineers, artists, doctors, marketers, inventors and entrepreneurs. Short, bursty presentations by astounding thinkers on a broad array of topics ranging from the science of yo-yos to space exploration take students out of the classrooms and into a setting where the teachers are the people actually thinking up and executing these big ideas.

In 2009, TEDxKIDS @SMU launched as the first-ever TED event designed specifically for students. Now in our second year, we are going through a growth spurt. We will increase our middle school audience by 10 percent and grow our high school mentoring program from 10 students to 60 students. For the first time, students will present some of the talks during the conference and offer some responses as to why (or why not) a demo or presentation fits within the context of TED.

Students must apply to attend, either as individual applicants or through schools or after-school programs. Students applying individually must have a chaperone at the event. Groups must have a ratio of 5 students to 1 chaperone and must operate primarily within the DISD boundaries. Multiple groups may apply from the same school/organization but all must be in the 5:1 ratio.

Individual and group applications are due by September 17. Accepted applicants must return a signed release form by September 30 in order to attend.

August 9- Registration opens.

September 17- All applications due.

September 30- Registration closes; release forms due.

Schedule

12:30-1:00	Check in at the Wylie Theatre
1:00-2:30	Session I
2:30-3:30	Break
3:30-5:00	Session II

Community Service Requirement

As part of our commitment to the students in the Dallas area, we offer this program free of charge for students to attend. In addition to completing the application requirements, students must commit to completing a service learning project. At TEDxKIDS (and via email immediately following the conference), students will have the opportunity to sign up for one of several volunteer experiences coordinated through TEDxSMU (including hosting their own TEDx events in their schools or with their friends and families), or to propose a service learning project of their choosing. All TEDxKIDS-coordinated service projects will take place on Saturday, November 20, 2010, and each attendee MUST agree to complete the service learning component in order to be selected to attend.

Chaperones

To reaffirm to the students that this day is really about and for them, we are asking that all chaperones and adults (except speakers) attending TEDxKIDS sit on the 2nd and 3rd levels of the Wylie Theatre, where parents and chaperones can watch and be in close proximity to students without being in the same row. This is available based on the comfort and discretion of chaperones. TEDxKids Camp Counselors are Dallas-area juniors and seniors in high school who have been selected through an application process to serve as peer mentors to the students and will also be available to sit with them during the program.

For Parents, Teachers, Chaperones

“It was fantastic and amazing... I WANT MORE !!! I’m hooked !!! I’m a TEDxKID !!!!” DISD student

“It was an EXPERIENCE as opposed to lectures.” DISD teacher

“Teaching at an inner city school where many students do not believe they will ever have the chance to go to college, much less help change the world, is often a huge challenge in motivation, as well as helping them understand opportunities exist for anyone who wants to work hard, get an education, and make a difference. This event was inspirational and motivated the students in ways I could never have!” Dallas teacher

Connecting students with real world thinkers sparked energetic discussions and created lasting impressions of the world outside the classroom. TEDxKIDS @SMU was created to inspire children to think big.

TED kids are leaders, artists, creators, innovators, inventors. They are excited about science and technology or getting involved in their community. They are inquisitive and respond to nontraditional teaching methods. All are open to new ideas and respectful of others.

TED in all its forms is dedicated to spreading ideas. Why? Because ideas have the power to change attitudes, lives and ultimately, the world. Thus, TEDxKids is dedicated to spreading ideas to those who arguably have the most power of all to change attitudes, lives and the world: young people.

You, as steward, have been entrusted with the responsibility of selecting students from your school to participate in TEDxKids. The following values are meant to serve as inspiration:

We want to inspire passion and awaken creativity in young people who are electric with potential. As such, we value:

- Passion, as much or more than raw talent
- Curiosity, as much or more than consistency
- Wonderment, as much or more than knowledge
- Questions, as much or more than answers
- Dreams, as much or more than accomplishments

Application- Why do your students want to participate?

All applications to TEDxKids will be processed digitally. The link to apply is available at www.TEDxSMU.org/TEDxKIDS.

Students are encouraged to be creative and show initiative in their application. Responses can be written in the form of an essay, letter, or poem (500 word max). Responses may also be in the form of a media file, including original music, video, or art. Media files may be no longer than 2 minutes and must be in the following formats, .pdf file, .doc file, .jpg file, QuickTime file, or .mp3 file.

Groups must have a ratio of 5 students to 1 chaperone and must operate primarily within the DISD boundaries. Multiple groups may apply from the same school/organization but all must be in the 5:1 ratio.

Applications are due by September 17. If selected, all participants MUST submit a parental release form by September 30 to attend TEDxKids @SMU.

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