



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – LOUISIANA STATE COUNCIL CATHOLIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Dear Parents and Guidance Counselors,

THE KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS

Thanks to the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven and some of his parishioners, the Connecticut state legislature on March 29, 1882, officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam and Saipan.

LOUISIANA STATE COUNCIL

Clergy and Catholic laymen in Louisiana were beginning to hear more about the influential fraternal order. Two prominent Catholics in New Orleans, Rev. Thomas F. Delaney, former administrator of St. Theresa' Church of New Orleans, who became Chaplain of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Captain John P. Boyle, officer in the New Orleans Police Department, heard of the new fraternal organization and decided to enroll in 1901 in the Nashville, TN Council No. 544. Father Delaney and Captain Boyle decided that by all means the order must be introduced into Louisiana. The first memorable and historic initiation in Louisiana took place on Sunday, November 23, 1902, in the old Tulane or Gibson Hall.

CYLA PROGRAM ORIGINS

In 1959 – a KC pilot program honored Joel Jude Moreau of Hessmer and Donald Mayeux of Mamou, a Eunice attorney. Formalized by action at the 1959 convention, the KC's Catholic Youth Leadership Awards have been annually presented ever since with girl honorees being added in 1971.



www.louisianakc.org

CYLA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TODAY

Do you know a young Catholic adult who is a faithful role model to others in their school, church or community? As the State Boy or Girl Winner – each is awarded \$4,000 to recognize them as a promising future Catholic leader! The Knights of Columbus truly care about the Catholic values these students possess. We know these outstanding students have already made wonderful contributions to their communities, church parishes, and to their schools. By participating in the CYLA Scholarship program, a Senior Boy and Girl is offered an opportunity to be recognized as one of the best Catholic students in their respective school! The recognition encourages these outstanding students to hold true to their Catholic values and accept the leadership roles that they will be asked to fill. These students are future CATHOLIC LEADERS! Please consider participating in the Knights of Columbus CYLA Program!

HOW TO GET STARTED

The student application form for current year High School Senior Boys and Girls is available on the state website: www.louisianakc.org under the CYLA section. A fillable application and instructions are included on the application. Please note the deadline and required signatures must be obtained in order for your application to be considered in good order. The deadline is by midnight of January 31, each year.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS – 3 Levels

Applications in good order MUST BE submitted to a local KC Council only.

1. The local Council will select a Boy and Girl Winner from all applications received.
2. The local Council winners are then sent to their respective KC Diocesan Administrator for the second level of competition in the program.
3. Once the Diocesan winners are selected, these winners are notified of the State Competition dates to compete for a top award of \$4,000 at the third and final level of the Scholarship Program!

Visit: www.louisianakc.org for dates and location of the State Competition and other CYLA information.