Powell House
Youth Program Conferences

Fall & Early Winter

Powell House is the conference and retreat center for New York Yearly Meeting Quakers. Our mission for all ages and denominations is to foster spiritual growth, create a nurturing community and strengthen testimonies of peace, integrity, and equality in the world.
Dear Friends,

We are writing to you with a strange and somewhat contradictory mix of emotions. Our energy moves with excitement and joy as we begin to pour ourselves into the wonderful work of the Powell House Youth Program. As we have settled into our positions, we have felt the community and environment reach out to meet us, whether it’s the chitter chatter of the squirrels or the joy of our virtual check-ins.

The other side of this, of course, is that the space here at Powell House is yearning to be shared. The common room is still filled with cushions waiting to be sat on. The library is brimming with interesting stories to tell. The maze is calling out to explorers to discover its secrets. Needless to say, the uncertainty of reopening Powell House rests firmly on our hearts and minds.

We are heartbroken that we don’t yet know when we’ll be able to open the Youth Program for in-person conferences. We are longing to meet you all in person, introduce ourselves, and share this warm and beautiful space together. However, the most important thing to us right now is to keep all of you and your families safe, even though this means we will be meeting in an unconventional way for a while.

For a lot of people, the magic of Powell House is difficult to describe. Something clicks, and suddenly you are enjoying yourself and the people around you in a way that is comfortable, calming, energizing, and freeing. Kind of like a sip of the best tea in the universe. But this concoction is a little more complex than ginger or peppermint or bengal spice in boiling hot water. The magic of Powell House is created when we reach out to each other and share our true selves while listening to and making space for every person in the group. It happens when we are inclusive and lift one another up through joyful games and activities. While difficult to achieve, through creative means and enthusiasm from attenders like you, this wondrous process can occur in virtual space.
The conferences in this brochure are unlike those in previous brochures in that most, if not all of them will be held using video conferencing technology to bridge our geographic distance. Nevertheless, the conferences will be a very real chance to connect and grow together. We will have fun-filled sessions and deep small group conversations. We will have free times with the option to hang out and chat or dive into a fun activity like a collaborative art project. We will hold workshops that expand your creativity and sharpen skills in areas like cooking, art, music, gardening, storytelling, and more. Finally, in order to avoid staring at a screen for too long, we will make space between sessions to take part in self-space activities and practice good self-care.

In a time where community is so difficult to find, the magic of our youth program is more important than ever. Please consider taking the time to join us for a weekend or two, while we embark on this journey.

With peace and blessings,

Sarah and Martin Glazer

Sarah and Martin Glazer
September 4-6 Journey Through the Mind Palace ............... 6th-8th Grade

Imagination. Neurons firing. A landscape created. What is going on inside YOUR brain? Where can your mind take you? What does a journey through your thoughts look like? We will be traveling through the depths of our mind and discovering ways to describe what we’ve found. Join us for creative sessions with tricky puzzles and fun art projects.

September 18-20 Change is in the Air ......................... 3rd-5th Grade

Have you ever woken up one day and thought that the world seems a little different than normal? Maybe your head feels like it’s a little farther from the floor. Maybe the color of the sky is a little off. Change can sneak up and surprise us! As autumn takes a hold on nature, we will spend time sharing the changes we find through goofy games and interesting activities.

September 25-27 Earth, Fire, Water, Air and... other? ........... 9th-12th Grade

Spirit moves through us in different ways. Sometimes you may feel grounded and solid like earth. Sometimes you may burn brightly with action like fire. Sometimes you may bend and turn, adapting like water. Sometimes you may bounce around swiftly like a breeze of fresh air. What else moves us in this world and beyond? How do the elements of life stir within us? Join us as we try to channel the different parts of ourselves into dynamic conversation and beautiful works of art.
October 9-11 Lunar Laughter ............................ 6th-8th Grade

The Moon looks a little like a circle of Swiss cheese from where we stand on the Earth. Of course it would look a lot different if you were standing on the Moon. There, you could jump around in the low gravity, feeling like a weirdly shaped bouncy ball. Jokes about a cheesy moon wouldn’t make much sense up there, but maybe you could craft some funny observations about lunar acrobatics! The cosmos and comedy are all about your perspective on a situation. Join us as we explore both and maybe find some overlap between the two. Whether you’re interested in astronomy or hilarity (or maybe something else entirely!), this is sure to be a fun conference.

October 30 - November 1 Monster Mashquerade .............. 3rd-5th Grade

In this wild world, there are a lot of cool and interesting things that seem quite scary at first. Goblins and ghouls, for example, seem pretty frightening until you sit down for tea with them. Vampires and werewolves were afraid of each other until they played a few card games together. At this conference you will be invited to dress up like something that scares you and jump into goofy games that involve pretending to be someone new and different! We’ll think about scary situations and talk about how we might make them feel a little less scary and a little more fun.

November 20-22 Surviving and Thriving ............ 11th Grade - Young Adults

Wow. 2020. Who could have guessed this year would be the way it has been? This conference, we want to connect, process, and heal. Amid this world of stress and chaos we will grow into ourselves, practicing radical self-love and sharing our experiences. Join us as we strengthen our community and partake in the joy of being together, virtually or physically.
December 4-6 Manifesting Justice .......................... 9th-12th Grade

As a community at Powell House, we are able to connect and find our true selves through creativity and conversation. Something happens when we find that flow of energy. Suddenly we are given the strength to spread the love that we find to people in our life and make the world a little brighter. At this conference, we will make some of that creative magic ourselves and talk about how we can stretch it out to reach other people near us. Expect games, art, and laughter as we bound through the work of manifesting justice.

December 18-20 Wintersong ............................... 7th-12th Grade

It’s difficult to write about Wintersong with the uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought to us. Whether we are at Powell House or in our homes, this will be an event of much joy as we bring light into our collective world. Join us as we dive deep into interesting conversation and build out into exciting, creative spaces. We will dress up in our fanciest clothes for Saturday dinner and share our talents in an expansive cabaret. This is a popular conference.
Youth Virtual Conference Information

**Timing:** All Zoom conferences will begin with a check-in where we'll play some games and talk through our expectations for the weekend at 7:30 p.m on Friday evening. On Saturday we will have a number of meeting times where we will have sessions, small group discussions, and play games together. These meetings will be interspersed with off-screen breaks to allow for self care. Conferences will end after we gather at 10:00 on Sunday morning for a closing session and some quiet worship time together.

**Rates:** All Virtual Youth Conferences is Pay as Led with the following suggested rate amounts: Comprehensive Rate $120, Standard Rate $90, Reduced Rate $60. Your event fee will support Powell House during the COVID-19 pandemic while we’re closed. It will help pay the bills and employees who are still hard at work. Please pay what you are able and do not let the cost keep you from joining us.

**Scholarships & Financial Aid:** Scholarship money is available from the Mark Seiler Memorial Fund and other generous donors for those who need it. Pay what you can. Indicate if you would like to request Financial Aid for a conference on your registration form. Don’t forget that your local Meeting may also be a source of assistance.

**Registration:** Register early! This helps us get an idea of how many folks to expect so we know what to plan, so please register at least one week before the first conference you would like to attend. You can either register on our website, or fill out the registration form and send it to: The Powell House Youth Program, 524 Pitt Hall Road, Old Chatham, NY, 12136.

**Confirmations & Cancellations:** Confirmations are sent out approximately two weeks before each conference. If you cancel by 5 p.m. Friday, one week before a conference, your deposit will be credited to another conference, or returned. You will be notified if you are on the waiting list.

**Contributions:** During this time of the pandemic Powell House has been hurting financially as we haven’t been able to hold our regular conferences. Any additional contributions you are led to make would be a huge help in this tough time. You can make a donation on our website or send it by mail to: The Powell House Youth Program, 524 Pitt Hall Road, Old Chatham, NY, 12136. All contributions are tax-deductible.
New Weekly Online Events!

Wednesday Guided Meditation

Every Wednesday, a new guided meditation with imagery from the Powell House grounds will be posted on Instagram and the Powell House website. Follow us at pohoyouth or check out powellhouse.org/guided-meditations to get on-demand centering and groundedness.

Friday Quiet Time Story

On non-conference weekends, cuddle up and get cozy next to your device while Sarah or Martin reads a story for Quiet Time. Sometimes we will include a self-care exercise such as giving yourself a hand massage. Check out the Newsletter for more information!

New Youth Program Newsletter!

Our weekly newsletter includes the above events and more! If you haven't received the newsletter and you would like to, send us an email and we'll put you on the mailing list!

Our email: sarahandmartin@powellhouse.org
## Upcoming Conference Schedule

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Visit powellhouse.org/virtual-workshop-series for information on our Adult and Intergenerational Virtual Workshop Series!
How to Register for (Virtual) Youth Conferences

• Register online at powellhouse.org or fill out and mail in the registration form in this brochure.

• Registration for all Virtual Youth Conferences is Pay as Led with the following suggested rate amounts: Comprehensive Rate $120, Standard Rate $90, Reduced Rate $60. Please pay what you are able and do not let the cost keep you from joining us. Financial Aid is available for those who need it.

• Register early but at least 1 week before the conference. This helps in planning activities and lining up the support people needed.

• We do not accept registrations over the phone, by e-mail or by fax. You can register online up to one week before the conference starts at powellhouse.org. After that you’ll need to call us and send in a registration form. Forms may be printed off the website.

• We send out a confirmation letter 2 weeks prior to the start of a conference.

• If you do not receive a confirmation letter, call us. It may be lost in the mail or you may not be registered for the conference. We send out letters even if you’re on the waiting list.

• Call or email us to cancel as soon as you know you can’t come. It helps us out with logistics and preparation. Canceling less than one week before the start of a conference forfeits your deposit.
Youth Registration Form: Fall and Early Winter 2020

Mail to: The Powell House Youth Program, 524 Pitt Hall Rd. Old Chatham, NY, 12136

Register me for the indicated conferences. I have enclosed the fee for these conferences.

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Number of conferences I'm registering for ________. Total amount enclosed $__________

Virtual Youth Conferences are Pay as Led with the following suggested rate amounts: Comprehensive Rate $120, Standard Rate $90, Reduced Rate $60

Name______________________________Quaker Meeting (if applicable)_____________________

Address__________________________City______________State______Zip__________

Phone_______________Birth Date___________Grade_______Gender_________

Youth E-Mail ________________________________ Parent Email ___________________________

    New Mailing Address ____ New Phone___

Parent Signature ___________________________Printed Name______________________________

Send a Youth Brochure to: ___________________________ Grade________________

Address/Zip_________________________________________________________________
A very special thanks to the individuals, monthly and regional meetings, Barrington Dunbar Fund, and the Mark Seiler Fund who've provided money for scholarships. You've given the gift of PoHo to many grateful young attenders.