# THE

# who, what, where & when **OF NYWC**

# WHAT IS NYWC AND WHERE IS IT LOCATED?

The National Youth Workers Convention (NYWC) is a 4-day event with 46 years of history that draws youth workers from all around the world and from every denomination. There are 50+ seminars at NYWC covering every element of training that you need to be successful. NYWC is an opportunity for you and your youth ministry team to be trained, inspired, and encouraged. Plus, you'll get to connect with other youth workers from around the world. Join us this year, November 17-20 at Duke Energy Center in Cincinnati, OH!

#### WHO CAN ATTEND NYWC?

NYWC is designed for any adult who wants to help teenagers find and follow Jesus. This includes youth pastors, student ministry directors, volunteer youth workers, Sunday school teachers, college ministry pastors, small group leaders, senior pastors, associate pastors, college pastors, and anyone else who has a passion for ministry to and with teenagers. Whether you work with teens in a church setting, a non-profit or para-church organization, a Christian school, or in a student mentor program, NYWC is the experience that you need.

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT NYWC?

Every NYWC attendee can expect a ton of training, resources, and plenty of opportunity to connect with God and other youth workers. This year, we've created some special experiences that are all a part of our theme ARISE: step up, step out.

- Ministry 101 track with essential training for the new youth worker
- YS Explores Big Room sessions with fresh ideas for partnering with schools and service opportunities in our communities
- The 50+ seminars curated to cover all aspects of youth ministry
- Big Room sessions created for worship as a family of youth workers, and to be challenged by some of today's leading voices.
- An exhibit hall with more than 200 organizations providing resources for youth workers
- A sanctuary and prayer space designed for you to reconnect personally with God

Whatever you need to grow as a youth worker, and to help teenagers find and follow Jesus, can be found at NYWC.



#### WHO PRODUCES NYWC?

Youth Specialties (YS) has been gathering the family of youth workers at NYWC for 46 years. The mission of YS is to help the church lead teenagers to find and follow Jesus. We do this through our training events, resources, and services designed to care for the needs of youth workers and to support the greater Church.

Find out more about the story of Youth Specialties online at youthspecialties.com

### WHAT KIND OF TRAINING WILL MY TEAM AND I GET AT NYWC?

We offer more than 50 practical training seminars led by youth ministry veterans, professors, and in-the-trenches practitioners who take the time to interact with attendees and answer questions specific to your ministry. Whether you're new to ministry or you're a seasoned veteran, you'll find things that will challenge you, surprise you and help you grow.

# IS NYWC AFFILIATED WITH A SPECIFIC DENOMINATION?

NYWC is intentionally designed as an interdenominational gathering of youth workers. We invite speakers and artists from across the denominational spectrum, and we draw attendees from just about every Christian affiliation. The result is a unique experience for our attendees that both affirms the work of the Holy Spirit within their denomination, and creates space for them in the broader conversation of youth ministry. Mike Yacconeli, one of our founders, always said that "If you love Jesus and want to help teenagers find and follow Him, NYWC is a safe place for you."

# Will it challenge you? Yes.

Is the denominational tension worth the trouble? Yes.

NYWC has shown the beauty of denominational traditions and it's an opportunity for every youth worker to remember that they are a part of one big and beautiful body of Christ.

#### WHAT IS INCLUDED IN MY NYWC REGISTRATION?

Your registration includes the Big Room sessions, 50+ seminars, late night options, access to the Exhibit Hall, Sanctuary and Prayer Chapel, and the YS Store. For an additional fee, you can add an Intensive to your registration, which is a 5-hour pre-event workshop focusing on a hot topic in youth ministry. Hotel, meals, and transportation are not covered in the cost of registration. To assist our attendees with those additional costs, we have arranged special discounts on hotels in the accommodations section at NYWC.com.



# WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE LIKE?

We work hard to fill the schedule with relevant experiences that will challenge, train, and encourage every kind of youth worker. You'll find chances to learn, worship, to be with Jesus, to connect with other youth workers, and to seek out awesome resources that will help you in youth ministry. If you're looking at the schedule and feel overwhelmed, like you just can't do it all, that's OK. We encourage you to use all the elements of NYWC to create the best experience for you – one that fuels you, encourages you, and equips you to head back to your teenagers with a renewed energy to help them find and follow Jesus.

## WHAT IF I CAN'T GET TO ALL OF THE SEMINARS I WANT TO ATTEND?

There will be more than 50 seminars at NYWC, so it's not possible to attend them all. However, you can purchase audio downloads of the majority of the seminars, available after the event. You can get deals on downloads at the YS Store, so be sure to stop by!

# ONCE I'M AT THE EVENT, HOW DO I STAY IN THE LOOP ON SCHEDULE UPDATES AND ANY OTHER LATE-BREAKING NYWC NEWS?

The NYWC handbook will have all the details for the weekend and will be given to you at Check-In. You can also subscribe to receive texts during the event that will provide updates to the schedule and remind you when things are happening over the weekend. Plus, we will not text you after NYWC.

In addition, we encourage you to follow #NYWC16 on social to see what's going on throughout the event from a variety of perspectives.

We also have amazing volunteers and staff all over the event who are available to help answer questions and make you aware of any late-breaking news. The HUB will be your one-stop-shop to get all the information you need.

### WHAT HAPPENS IN THE BIG ROOM?

The Big Room is the space where we all gather together for worship sessions, entertainment, and can't-miss programming. We have Big Room worship sessions, which include music, fun, and speakers who are there to encourage you in your ministry, leadership, and your own spiritual journey. During Big Room YS Explores sessions, we curate a variety of speakers and presentation styles to focus on a topic that is important for the entire family of youth ministry to explore together. We bring in people from different backgrounds and experiences to provide a chance for you to learn something new, be challenged in your thinking or practices in youth ministry, or reflect on how that topic fits into your own ministry context. This year we're exploring schools and service during the YS Explores sessions.

