



**18<sup>th</sup> RUSSIAN-SPEAKING YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**  
**Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at Clackamas Community College**

February 2014

Dear Friends of the Russian-Speaking Community:

The Russian-Speaking Youth Leadership Conference (RSYLC) needs your help. Our all-volunteer Fundraising Committee asks you to support the Eighteenth Russian-Speaking Youth Leadership Conference scheduled for April 29, 2014 at Clackamas Community College.

The purpose of the conference is to show participants how many career options and opportunities are possible after high school graduation, to promote youth leadership and development of the Russian-Speaking Community in the Pacific Northwest.

The Russian-speaking population in the Portland Metropolitan Area has been growing rapidly since 1989. It is now approaching 150,000 residents. This population growth has brought many challenges: a disproportionate high school dropout rate among Russian-speaking youth; a lack of culturally appropriate services for Russian-speaking immigrants and refugees, and a lack of awareness about community norms and laws.

For the past 17 years the RSYLC has played an instrumental role in bringing several thousand Russian-speaking youth together to discuss these challenges and develop meaningful ways to address them on a community-wide level via youth, parent, school and community involvement.

Conference participants have included high school students from school districts in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington & Marion counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington. Our budget for this year is \$18,000. This includes funds for art awards and college scholarships, as well as conference operations.

All donated funds are tax deductible as a charitable contribution to the East European Coalition (E.E.C.) (Federal Tax ID 26-4140853 / E.E.C. is a 501 (c3) organization). Our "Thank You letter" is sufficient documentation of your donation for tax purposes.

Donations should be sent to: East European Coalition, 2141 SE 113<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97216. Checks should be paid to the order of: East European Coalition. Please note on the check RSYLC or Russian Speaking Youth Leadership Conference.

Your contribution will be recognized in news releases for conference promotion, in the conference package and at the event, or as you prefer.

We thank you for your help!  
The Fundraising Committee of RSYLC 2014  
[www.eecnorthamerica.org](http://www.eecnorthamerica.org)

For more information, please contact Vadim Riskin (Co-chair) at (503) 805-2097, email: [eec.national@gmail.com](mailto:eec.national@gmail.com) or Roman Shabashevich (fundraising) at (503) 467-8731.