



19th RUSSIAN-SPEAKING YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE at Clackamas Community College

January 2015

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 Nineteenth Russian-Speaking Youth Leadership Conference scheduled for May 5th 2015 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 160,000 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 18 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.

This year we expect 200 students and guests from Oregon and Washington to participate in the conference. 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 113th 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 program and at the event, or as you prefer.

We thank you for your help!
The Fundraising Committee of RSYLC 2015
www.eecnorthamerica.org

For more information, please contact Vadim Riskin (Chair) at (503) 805-2097, email: vrisk1@yahoo.com, Marina Nita (fundraising) at (971) 227-6515 or Roman Shabashevich (fundraising) at (503) 467-8731.