

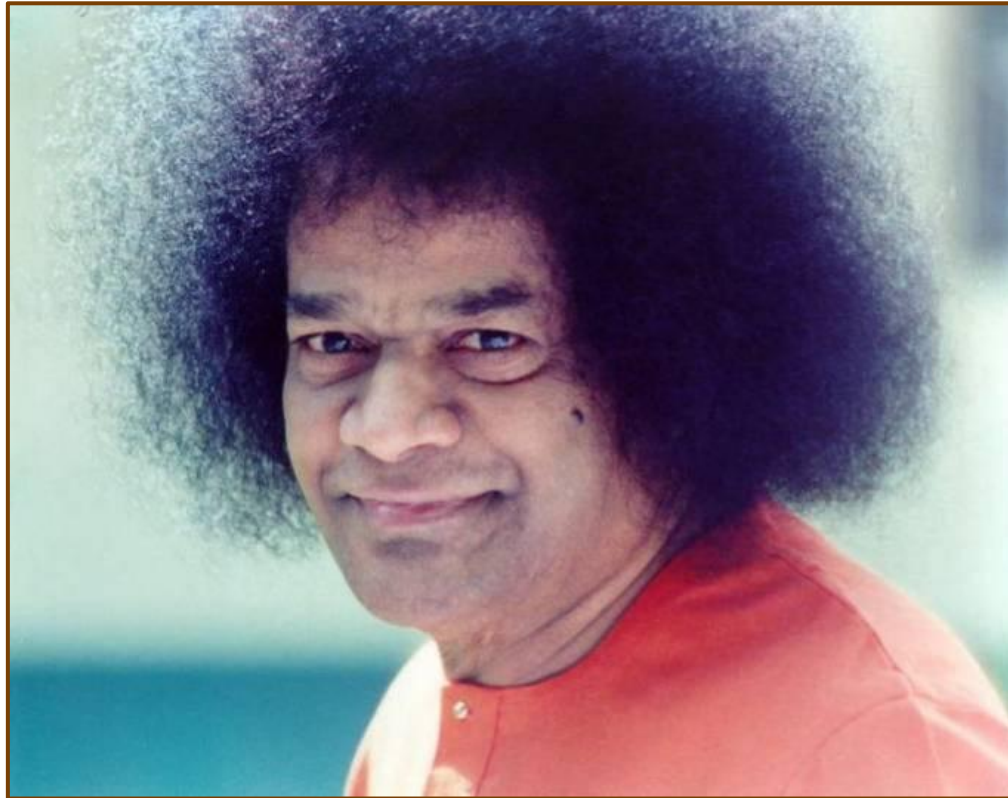
Comfort Away, Lead the Way, In the US of A

By: Nisha Lad, Omesh Bissoon, Priya Mehta, Andrew DeMil (Region 3 YA Leadership team)

June 11, 2019



Salutation



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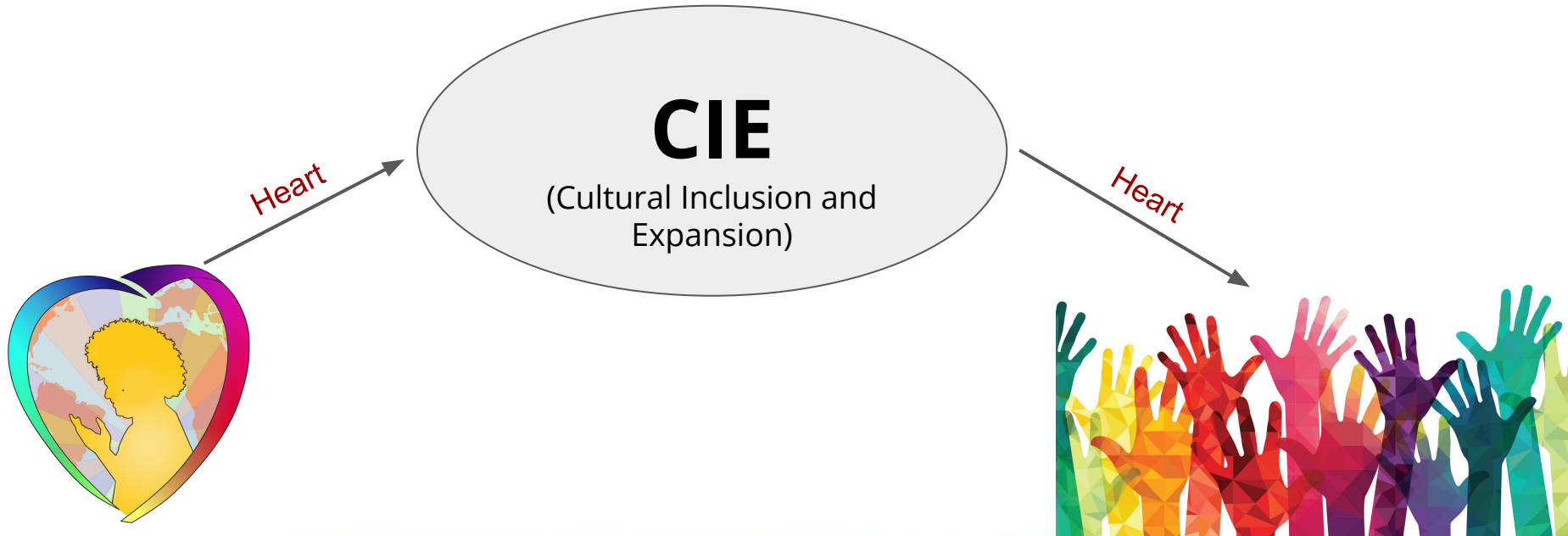
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CIE from a YA Perspective



By Source not Force



Annual Regional Retreat for Young Adults (ARRYA)



ARISE:

“If not me, then who?”

“If not now, then when?”



Annual Regional Retreat for Young Adults (ARRYA)



- ❖ Inspiring Speaker - Brother Ajay
- ❖ Panel Discussion - Practical Topics YAs face
- ❖ Team Building Activities
- ❖ **CIE Study Circles**
- ❖ Experience Sharing



CIE Study Circles @ ARRYA

- Broke up into groups of 8
- 5 minutes of intro to topics and instruction
- 40 minutes for study circle discussion
- 20 minute sharing session



CIE Study Circle Topics



Topic #1 - The purpose of a Sathya Sai Center

1. What do you feel is the purpose of a Sai Center? What does Sai say is the purpose of a Sai Center?
2. Do our Center activities reflect, project and inspire the message of oneness and our inner divinity to all? How and how not?

Topic #2 - Unity in Diversity

1. Do our current practices and routines provide a perception of inclusion? How and how not?
2. In addition to routine service activities, how can we foster love towards our fellow beings of all cultures in practical ways?

Topic #3 - Unity of Thought, Word and Deed

1. With regards to Cultural Inclusion and Expansion, can you give examples of how we as individuals sometimes say one thing yet practice something else?
2. What can the YA group do to change this?

Topic #4 - YA's and Cultural Inclusion and Expansion

1. What are the reasons YA's become disinterested or disengaged from the Sai Center in terms of Cultural Inclusion and Expansion?
2. What can the YA's do to change this?



Purpose of SSIO



The main goal of the Sathya Sai Organisation ... is to help humanity recognise its inherent divinity. ... So, your duty is to emphasise the One, to experience the One in all you do and speak. Do not give any importance to differences of religion, sect, status, or colour. Have the feeling of Oneness permeate all your acts. Only those who do so have a place in this Organisation; the rest can withdraw.

Sathya Sai Baba, January 6, 1975

It is established to translate the principles of love and Non-violence into daily practice.

Sathya Sai Baba, November 20, 1970





What is the purpose of a Sathya Sai Center?



Purpose of a Sathya Sai Center



Some responses from ARRYA Study Circles:

- To develop Unity of Thought Word and Deed
- Learn about other faiths
- Find out if there a difference between Sai life and Non-Sai life?
- Learn what my boundaries are
- Thought for the Day





What is the purpose of a Sathya Sai Center?

3 mins of Discussion

- * Feel free to respond or comment in the chat box.
- * If you are not speaking please mute your line.



Purpose of a Sathya Sai Center



The Sathya Sai Centre is the basic unit within the SSIO organisational structure.

The purpose of a Centre is to provide a loving environment that nourishes the devotion of its members by creating opportunities to study and practice the teachings of Sathya Sai Baba.

sathyasai.us/about-us/sathya-sai-centers



3 Wings of Sathya Sai Center



Devotion

Service

Education



Some of Swami's Words



Members of Sathya Sai Organisations should consider UNITY as their very life breath.
[Sathya Sai Speaks, vol. 31, pg. 41]

To understand God's nature, man has to develop universality of outlook and cultivate the all embracing concept of expansive love. [Summer Showers 1979, pg. 63]

Truth (God) is One. The same Paramatma (Supreme Soul) is called by different names, like Rama, Krishna, Christ and Allah. This is the cardinal principle on which Sai Organisations work. The unity of faiths is the main plank of Sai Organisations ... Never entertain malice (hatred) towards anyone; the same God is inherent in all beings.
[Sathya Sai Baba, 6 January 1975]





What are some examples of activities that reflect cultural expansion and inclusion at your Sathya Sai Center?



Some Responses from ARRYA



- Having a greeter
- Singing Devotional Songs in different languages
- Celebrating festivals from all religions
- Being cognisant of the language we speak while at the center
- Allowing shoes to be worn in the Sai Center or Sai Events





What are some examples of activities that reflect cultural expansion and inclusion at your Sathya Sai Center?

5 mins of Discussion

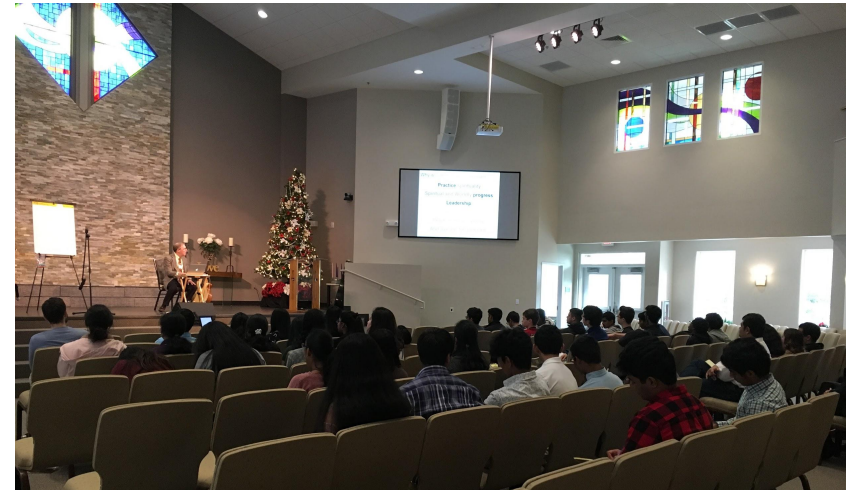
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Youth Public Meeting



- ❖ December 2018 in Raleigh, NC
- ❖ “Discover your Potential, Empower Yourself!” led by Dr. Joe Phaneuf
- ❖ Interactive workshops and discussions on universal, practical values:
 - Secret to Happiness
 - Dare to be Divine
 - Manifesting our Unlimited Potential
 - Trusting our Heart and Inner Voice
- ❖ Embracing other faiths



Region 3 - Youth Public Meeting



Sai Young Adults @ Georgia Tech



- ❖ Meet weekly for discussion and devotional singing
- ❖ Attended by non-Sai devotees
- ❖ Multi-Faith Prayers





What are some things that we can do to promote unity in thought, word, and deed at our Sai Centers?



Some Responses from ARRYA



- Speaking kindly and softly when trying to express what you want to say
- People saying one thing and acting differently to fit in - Creating an atmosphere where YAs are not pressured
- Share our thoughts with other YAs because they probably feel the same way and want to bring about the same change
- Breaking the double standards





What are some things that we can do to promote unity in thought, word, and deed at our Sai Centers?

5 mins of Discussion

- * Feel free to respond or comment in the chat box.
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What are some way YAs can be catalyst for change to make the Sai Centers welcoming and foster the feeling of love?



Some Responses from ARRYA



- Create a safe space between YAs and old members so YAs can feel more comfortable
- Allow YAs attend the officer's meetings so they can be involved
- YA led study circles
- YA / SSE led service projects
- Encourage YAs to take leadership roles
- Introduce new comers with Service and Study Circles
- Create a space to celebrate diversity and spiritual practice





What are some way YAs can be catalyst for change to make the Sai Centers welcoming and foster the feeling of love?

5 mins of Discussion

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Takeaways



1. Be understanding of Sai Center dynamic / needs of our center / current society /culturals. Understanding where we currently are and where we want to go
2. To be culturally inclusive and also culturally relevant
3. Bringing about awareness in our respective Sai Centers can start with a simple the discussion - no big effort is required



Conclusion



"The future of the country depends on the skill and the sincerity of the Youth. Therefore, the necessary enthusiasm and encouragement must be generated among the Youth. All my hopes are based on the students, the Youth. They are very dear to me."

– Sathya Sai Baba, Sathya Sai Speaks IX.

“If not me, then who?, If not now, then when?”

Remember it's by Source not Force



Q & A



Coming up next ...



sathyasai.us/ya/SAIX



Coming up next ...



SATHYA SAI YOUNG ADULTS FESTIVAL
ZONE 1

DARE TO BE DIVINE!

SATHYA SAI INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION ♦ ZONE 1

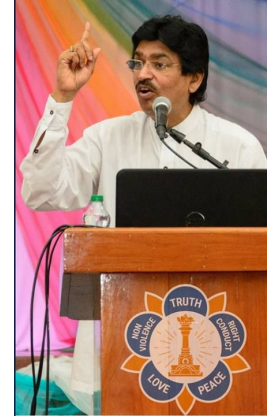
Chicago, USA
AUGUST 9-11, 2019

@Zone1SaiYoungAdults

Open to all Sathya Sai Young Adults
(devotees who are 18-40 years old)

Organized by YAs of Zone 1, which consists of:
Aruba, Barbados, Canada, Curacao, Guyana,
Jamaica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Martin,
Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and USA

- ❖ Dr. Suresh Govind !!!
- ❖ Workshops
- ❖ Exhibitions
- ❖ Devotional Music
- ❖ Sports
- ❖ Sadhana App
- ❖ Food



Register today : www.ZYAF2019.com





Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

PRASANTHI NILAYAM P.O.
ANANTPUR DT. (A.P.)
PHONE NO : 30.

PRAYER

Oh! Lord! Take my love and let it flow in fullness
" Take my hands and let ^{or devotion to thee} them work
incessantly for thee
" Take my soul and let it be merged in one
with thee
" Take my mind and thoughts and let them
be in ~~some~~ tune with thee
" Take my everything and let me be an
instrument to work.

With Love and Grace
Baba.



Thank You and Sairam



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