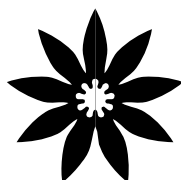


**Unity of Mankind**  
**Religious Award Program of the Bahá'í Faith**  
**For Scouts of All Ages**



**Level 3**

**Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts**  
**(Grades 8-12)**

**Boy Scouts**  
**(Grades 9-12)**

# Scout & Counselor Manuals and General Information

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## PREFACE

### *A New Program:*

We are pleased to introduce the exciting new Unity of Mankind Religious Award Program Manuals. There are 3 different award levels. Each level has been written as a separate manual using age appropriate requirements and language that the child/teen can understand. These manuals have been developed to guide children through a meaningful, user-friendly program of activities. The goal of all 3 manuals is to make children better World Citizens by giving them a deeper understanding of the Bahá'í Faith. We hope that your child will enjoy this program so much that she/he will want to encourage others to participate and earn this special award.

\* \* \* \* \*

### *To the Scout:*

Welcome to the Bahá'í Unity of Mankind Award Program! Whether you are a member of the Bahá'í Faith, or are interested in learning more about the Bahá'í religion, we hope you enjoy going through this program with your parent and counselor. By the end of the program you will have learned quite a lot about the most important teaching of the Bahá'í Faith...Unity. Also, you will become more familiar with the Central Figures of the Faith and learn how to share the Faith, and its teachings of unity, with others.

This program consists of reading books, learning prayers and passages from the Bahá'í Writings, doing artistic projects, and performing service projects with your family and for your community. We look forward to hearing of your progress!

\* \* \* \* \*

*To the Parent(s):*

We are happy to know of your daughter's or son's commitment to the Unity of Mankind Award Program. We strongly encourage parental involvement in this program. We suggest that before your child begins this award program, you carefully read through the Counselor's Manual. Although you need to ask a Bahá'í outside of your immediate family to be your child's counselor, sharing in your child's experiences with these activities will promote stronger family unity. Working with your child and the counselor will make this program even more meaningful to your child. After all, the greatest gift you can give your child is your time.

Upon completion of the requirements, your child will receive the Bahá'í Unity of Mankind Award Emblem for his/her appropriate level at an event that honors your child's dedication and achievement. We hope you enjoy and benefit from your participation!

\* \* \* \* \*

*To the Counselor:*

As a counselor for the Bahá'í Unity of Mankind Award Program, you will be helping young people gain a greater understanding of the Bahá'í Faith and its unifying teachings. It is the counselor's privilege to help the child understand the basic Bahá'í principles and the benefits of reading the Bahá'í Holy Writings. For many children, participating in this program may be both their first truly conscious effort to deepen their own understanding of the Bahá'í Faith and to perform acts of service to humankind as an expression of that Faith.

To gain a clear understanding of this program and its requirements, please read through the complete Counselor's Guide carefully. When a child actually begins the program, fill out the Certificate of Enrollment form found in the Appendix. After each activity has been completed, ask the child to check the appropriate box(es) in the manual. Feel free to photocopy pages as necessary. If you have any questions, please contact the Bahá'í Committee on Scouting at:

Education and Schools Office  
Bahá'í National Center  
1233 Central Street  
Evanston, IL 60201  
(847) 733-3492 / fax: (847) 733-3502 / e-mail: [schools@usbnc.org](mailto:schools@usbnc.org)

*The major goals of this program are to:*

1. Introduce or deepen the teen's knowledge of the basic teachings of the Unity of Mankind and the 3 Onenesses.
2. Help teens learn additional basic principles and teachings of the Bahá'í Faith... and to begin to learn how to share the Faith with others.
3. Familiarize or deepen teens in their knowledge of the Central Figures of the Bahá'í Faith.
4. Begin or further develop the habit of saying prayers daily and to memorize a variety of prayers.
5. Start teens thinking about how they can use the Bahá'í teachings in their own lives.
6. Answer some of the most often asked questions of teens in this age group.
7. Strengthen the spiritual bonds within the family thereby increasing family unity.
8. Strengthen the teen's bonds within the Bahá'í community.
9. Use art as a vehicle of expression in the Faith.
10. Emphasize to teens their own importance through helping others.
11. Help teens further develop a variety of study and communication skills which will help them throughout life.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Please Note:*

Throughout the Counselor Guide, I refer to the teen with whom you are working as 'your teen'.

To encourage a high degree of parental involvement, throughout the manual it is often written, "Do this with your parent or counselor." Counselors, feel free to fully review with the teen any requirements she/he completes at home.

The Bahá'í Teaching Booklet and other Bahá'í books needed for this program are inexpensive and can often be borrowed or bought by your community as the basis for a Bahá'í library.

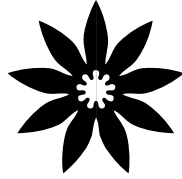
This manual may be used by teens whose parents are not Bahá'í as well as by teens whose parents are Bahá'í.

For teens who are home-schooled, adjust accordingly the requirements that ask for things to be done at school.

For isolated believers, if there are absolutely no other Bahá'ís within a reasonable distance that could be a counselor for your teen, you may act as the counselor yourself.



# Teen's Guide



## **Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts (Grades 8-12)**

## **Boy Scouts (Grades 9-12)**

*This phase of the program serves Bahá'í youth, and those interested in the Bahá'í Faith, who are currently registered as a Cadette/Senior Girl Scout in grades 8-12 or a Boy Scout in grades 9-12. Because the age level of the participants in this phase covers a wide span of developmental levels, allowances should be made for differing levels of involvement.*

*It would be helpful for one of the teen's parents to read through the Counselor's Guide before the teen starts this program.*

*Recommended books are listed in the Appendix in the Counselor's Guide. With new Bahá'í books being published all of the time, also feel free to select other Bahá'í books that are comparable to these listed and are age appropriate for your teen.*

# REQUIREMENTS

## I. UNITY AND THE INDIVIDUAL (2 MONTHS)

All are born with potential for growth and development.

### A. STUDY

**A-1** Read one book approved by your parent or counselor about the life of the Báb or a large section of a book that covers the Báb's life such as Release the Sun. After you have read the book, discuss it with your counselor. What did you find most interesting about the life of the Báb? What qualities did the Báb and His followers exhibit that you can emulate?

COMPLETED

**A-2** Read the Youth Section of the 5 Year Plan. A copy of this message can be found in the 5 Year Plan booklet or by going to [www.usbnc.org](http://www.usbnc.org) - click on Communications from the NSA, then the 5 Year Plan, and finally the Youth section. How can you use the 5 Year Plan to develop a plan for your own spiritual growth? List your ideas. Try to put them into practice for the next 2 months.

COMPLETED

**A-3** Discuss and memorize 10 laws Bahá'ís need to obey. You can find these in the Bahá'í Teaching Booklet. Why should you obey them? Select one law that is new to you and try to follow it for two weeks. Discuss the results with your counselor.

COMPLETED

**A-4** Learn about the Bahá'í Fast. Read about it in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas. Discuss your readings with your counselor. Depending upon your age, how can you participate in the Fast? Name some ways.

COMPLETED



## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** Make a 6-month prayer chart to use throughout the whole 6 months of your Unity of Mankind Award Program. Say prayers daily and record them on your chart. Begin by memorizing one Bahá'í prayer each month for the next 2 months including an Obligatory Prayer or a prayer from the Báb. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

**B-2** Illustrate creatively some aspect of the knowledge gained from your readings and your prayers using an artistic medium such as a poster, mobile, painting, woodwork, photographic layout, song, poem, or short story. Or, with the approval of your counselor, develop your own activity that focuses on what you have read.

COMPLETED

**B-3** In the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, we are told to say "Alláh-u-Abhá" 95 times each day. Make prayer beads for use in saying the 95 Alláh-u-Abhá's. In the next section of your manual, you will begin saying them. If you already have prayer beads, make a set and give them to someone else who could use them. Your counselor has the directions on how to make the prayer beads.

COMPLETED

## C. SERVICE

**C-1** Recite a Bahá'í prayer at a Feast, Holy Day, Devotional Meeting or Youth Class. (A Scout who is not a Bahá'í may recite a prayer at a Unity Feast or at one of the other kinds of Bahá'í activities listed.)

COMPLETED

**C-2** Select a cooperative game (vs. competitive game). Teach the game to younger children at Bahá'í School or at a Scout meeting, etc. Explain to the children why cooperative games are more wholesome than competitive games. Discuss the importance of working together.

COMPLETED



## II. UNITY AND THE FAMILY (2 MONTHS)

All must strive to overcome their prejudices.

### A. STUDY

**A-1** Read a book about Bahá'u'lláh or about someone's experiences with meeting Bahá'u'lláh. Suggested books are listed in the Appendix. Discuss the book with your counselor. What did you find most interesting about His life? How can you use the information that you have learned to tell others about Bahá'u'lláh?

COMPLETED

**A-2** Read 4 Writings from Bahá'u'lláh from a variety of sources. Ask your counselor to assist you in finding these sources. Discuss what your selected Writings mean and how they relate to you personally.

COMPLETED

**A-3** Read and discuss a story or folk tale that illustrates blind imitation and ignorance. Discuss how this can relate to a person's choice of and experience with religion.

COMPLETED

**A-4** Practice saying 95 Alláh-u-Abhá's using your prayer beads. How does this make you feel spiritually? Discuss this with your counselor.

COMPLETED

## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** At least once during each month, help plan a family night/day which will include prayers, music, Bahá'í stories or Writings, and games. Make it fun for everyone in your family.

COMPLETED

COMPLETED

**B-2** Learn about Bahá'í Consultation. What is necessary to have true Consultation? How and when can you use it? Try using Consultation to work out a family issue. Information on Consultation can be found in the [Compilation on Consultation](#) or by going to [www.bahai.org/article-1-3-6-3.html](http://www.bahai.org/article-1-3-6-3.html).

COMPLETED

**B-3** Memorize a new Bahá'í prayer each month for the next 2 months, including a prayer for family or parents and one for spiritual qualities. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

**B-4** Memorize 12 principles of the Bahá'í Faith. You can find these in your Bahá'í Teaching Booklet or in the Appendix. Discuss with your counselor what each principle means.

COMPLETED

**B-5** After completing B-4, practice role-playing teaching others about some of the 12 principles of the Faith. Do this with your family or counselor. Did you know that the Persian word for 'teaching' actually means 'announcing'? How does this make your approach to teaching the Faith different?

COMPLETED



## C. SERVICE

**C-1** What is a Fireside? How many people need to be involved in order for something to be considered a fireside? Does this kind of meeting need to be held in any particular place? Give a fireside (an informal discussion about aspects of the Bahá'í Faith) on the theme of the elimination of prejudice of all kinds, including religious prejudice. This can be a large event or a one-on-one opportunity to share something about the Faith with a non-Bahá'í friend.

COMPLETED

**C-2** Critique your fireside experience. What worked well and what could be done better? Discuss this with your counselor.

COMPLETED

**C-3** Plan and conduct part of a Bahá'í gathering, such as a Feast Consultation or a Youth Class, focusing on the elimination of prejudice. Include time to discuss how current events point out the prejudices that are still apparent in the local and global community. Be ready to share some examples of these to get the discussion started. Ask your counselor or parent for any assistance that you may need.

COMPLETED

### III. UNITY AND HUMANITY (2 MONTHS)

Prejudices are a barrier to the realization of Oneness and to the establishment of World Peace.

#### A. STUDY

**A-1** Read one book about Abdu'l-Bahá's life or His visit to America. What can you learn from Him? Why was He called the Perfect Example?

COMPLETED

**A-2** Read 6 tablets from the Writings of Ábdu'l-Bahá where He is teaching the Faith to others. This includes almost all of the talks He gave. List ways in which He taught that would be good for you to emulate. Discuss these with your counselor.

COMPLETED

**A-3** Read a short book about a hero or heroine of the Bahá'í Faith. After reading the book, discuss with your counselor the power of example demonstrated by the hero or heroine. What can you learn from her/him? How can you relate this to your own life?

COMPLETED

## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** Memorize one Bahá'í prayer each month. Memorize one in another language during this period. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

**B-2** With your counselor read through and discusses the whole Bahá'í Teaching Booklet. Make sure that you understand the information in it.

COMPLETED

**B-3** Role-play sharing the Faith with others using the knowledge you have gained so far. Role-play at least 4 scenarios with your family, counselor, or Bahá'í School teacher.

COMPLETED

**B-4** Attend a holiday celebration of a culture other than your own, or a religious service with which you are unfamiliar. With your family or counselor, discuss how this activity can assist individuals in eliminating prejudices.

COMPLETED

## C. SERVICE

**C-1** Discuss the importance of the Bahá'í Fund with your counselor. Learn about the Local, National and International Bahá'í Funds. Talk about who can give to the Funds, how much should you give, and what the money is used for in each Fund. Make a special Fund box to donate to your community to use at Feast and a smaller personal one for yourself to use to help you save money for the Fund. Your counselor has the directions for making one kind of Fund box, but feel free to make any sort of Fund boxes that you would like. Just remember that they need to be dignified. For two months, put money in your personal Fund box whenever you can. Take the money you saved to Feast to give to the Fund. Also, present your new Local Community Fund box at the Feast. (A teen who is not a Bahá'í can donate his money to a charity and use the Community Fund box as a place for his family to collect money to donate to charity.)

COMPLETED

**C-2** In consultation with your parents, pick a specific project you can work on that helps others. Possibilities include assisting with a Bahá'í Children's Class for at least one month, working on a Habitat for Humanity house, working with disadvantaged children or doing a project to help the environment. Or select a helpful project of your own that will be meaningful for you to do.

COMPLETED

**C-3** Using what you have learned from these award requirements, share the Faith with 3 friends or acquaintances who know little or nothing about the Bahá'í Faith. Afterward, share your teaching stories with your counselor and/or at Feast.

COMPLETED



# Counselor's Guide



## Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts (Grades 8-12)

## Boy Scouts (Grades 9-12)

*This manual serves Bahá'í teens, and those interested in the Bahá'í Faith, who are currently registered as a Cadette or Senior Girl Scout, grades 8-12, or a Boy Scout, grades 9-12. Because of the wide span of developmental levels found within these grades, allowances should be made for differing levels of involvement.*

*NOTE: When the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is reached, the teen is no longer eligible for this award.*

*Be sure to ask the teen's parent to read through the Counselor's Guide before the teen begins this program. The parent may want a copy of the Counselor's Guide for home. Parents should be encouraged to be involved in this program with their teen if at all possible.*

*Note: the phrase 'your teen' refers to the teen with whom you are working. Remember that in one sense, all the teens in the Bahá'í community are 'our teens'.*

*Recommended books are listed in the Appendix of this Counselor's Guide. With new Bahá'í books being published all of the time, also feel free to select other Bahá'í books that are comparable to these listed and are age appropriate for your teen.*

# REQUIREMENTS

## I. UNITY AND THE INDIVIDUAL (2 MONTHS)

All are born with potential for growth and development.

### A. STUDY

**A-1** Read one book approved by your parent or counselor about the life of the Báb or a large section of a book that covers the Báb's life such as Release the Sun. After you have read the book, discuss it with your counselor. What did you find most interesting about the life of the Báb? What qualities did the Báb and His followers exhibit that you can emulate?

COMPLETED

*(Additional recommended books are listed in the Appendix.)*

**A-2** Read the Youth Section of the 5 Year Plan. A copy of this message can be found in the 5 Year Plan booklet or by going to [www.usbnc.org](http://www.usbnc.org) - click on Communications from the NSA, then the 5 Year Plan, and finally the Youth section. How can you use the 5 Year Plan to develop a plan for your own spiritual growth? List your ideas. Try to put them into practice for the next 2 months.

COMPLETED

*(Although summaries are available, it is important that your teen read the actual text from the booklet or the website. It is quite short. Discuss with your teen how to develop a personal growth plan using this message as a base.)*

**A-3** Discuss and memorize 10 laws Bahá'ís need to obey. You can find these in the Bahá'í Teaching Booklet. Why should you obey them? Select one law that is new to you and try to follow it for two weeks. Discuss the results with your counselor.

COMPLETED □

*(Discuss these laws in some detail. Also, make sure your teen has a Bahá'í Teaching Booklet to keep for her use throughout this program and preferably to keep permanently.)*

**A-4** Learn about the Bahá'í Fast. Read about it in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas. Discuss your readings with your counselor. Depending upon your age, how can you participate in the Fast? Name some ways.

COMPLETED □

*(First, explain what Kitáb-i-Aqdas means. Then, assist the teen in navigating through it. Help him find the section on the Fast. Encourage him to read through other parts of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas at his convenience and to always feel free to ask questions to aid in his understanding.)*



## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** Make a 6-month prayer chart to use throughout the whole 6 months of your Unity of Mankind Award Program. Say prayers daily and record them on your chart. Begin by memorizing one Bahá'í prayer each month for the next 2 months including an Obligatory Prayer or a prayer from the Báb. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

*(Depending on your teen's past experience, choice of prayers may be modified. Discuss why it is important to pray every day. Explain to your teen that at age 15, he should say an Obligatory Prayer of his choice each day. Talk about the ablutions that go with these prayers.)*

**B-2** Illustrate creatively some aspect of the knowledge gained from your readings and your prayers using an artistic medium such as a: poster, mobile, painting, woodwork, photographic layout, song, poem, or short story. Or, with the approval of your counselor, develop your own activity that focuses on what you have read.

COMPLETED

*(Encourage her to do something meaningful for this project – this is to enhance her appreciation of the arts in the Bahá'í Faith and is not to be looked upon as busy work.)*

**B-3** In the Kitáb-i-Aqdas, we are told to say “Alláh-u-Abhá” 95 times each day. Make prayer beads for use in saying the 95 Alláh-u-Abhá’s. In the next section of your manual, you will begin saying them. If you already have prayer beads, make a set and give them to someone else who could use them. Your counselor has the directions on how to make the prayer beads.

COMPLETED □

*(To make the beads: string together 5 groups of 19 beads each. Separate each group with a single bead that feels quite different (in size and texture) from the 19 beads in each section. Use a special bead or tassel to indicate the starting/completion point of the bead chain. Using the beads, your teen can keep track of her 95 Alláh-u-Abhá’s by feel without being distracted by actually trying to count them.)*



## C. SERVICE

**C-1** Recite a Bahá'í prayer at a Feast, Holy Day, Devotional Meeting or Youth Class. Discuss with your counselor why it is important to actively participate in community activities. (A Scout who is not a Bahá'í may recite a prayer at a Unity Feast or at one of the other kinds of Bahá'í activities listed.)

COMPLETED

*(Let your teen know that she is an important part of the community and discuss why. Teens should also be encouraged to recite or read additional prayers at Feast and at other Bahá'í meetings.)*

**C-2** Select a cooperative game (vs. competitive game). Teach the game to younger children at Bahá'í School or at a Scout meeting, etc. Explain to the children why cooperative games are more wholesome than competitive games. Discuss the importance of working together.

COMPLETED

*(Have the teen look in the library or in Scout leader game materials for cooperative game ideas.)*

## II. UNITY AND THE FAMILY (2 MONTHS)

All must strive to overcome their prejudices.

### **A. STUDY**

**A-1** Read a book about Bahá'ú'lláh or about someone's experiences with meeting Bahá'ú'lláh. Suggested books are listed in the Appendix. Discuss the book with your counselor. What did you find most interesting about His life? How can you use the information that you have learned to tell others about Bahá'ú'lláh?

COMPLETED

*(Recommended books are listed in the Appendix.)*

**A-2** Read 4 Writings from Bahá'ú'lláh from a variety of sources. Ask your counselor to assist you in finding these sources. Discuss what your selected Writings mean and how they relate to you personally.

COMPLETED

*(Freely assist your teen in this endeavor. Try to use a variety of sources so that he will have a basic understanding of how to find quotes the next time he needs them. Quotes can be found in Compilations or in any of the books of Writings or Tablets of Bahá'ú'lláh or 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Look in the indexes for specific topics. Also, many Writings can be accessed via the computer on various Bahá'í CDROMs, or by going to [www.bahai.org](http://www.bahai.org) - the main Bahá'í site, [www.usbnc.org](http://www.usbnc.org), [www.ibiblio.org/bahai/true](http://www.ibiblio.org/bahai/true) seeker, or [www.oc-bahai.org](http://www.oc-bahai.org).)*

**A-3** Read and discuss a story or folk tale that illustrates blind imitation and ignorance. Discuss how this can relate to a person's choice of and experience with religion.

COMPLETED □

*(Have your teen look in the children's section of her library for books of folk tales. Discuss how the idea of blind imitation relates to the Bahá'í teaching of Independent Investigation of the Truth.)*

**A-4** Practice saying 95 Alláh-u-Abhá's using your prayer beads. By using the beads, you can keep track of your 95 Alláh-u-Abhá's by feel, without being distracted by actually trying to count them. How does saying the Alláh-u-Abhá's make you feel spiritually? Discuss this with your counselor.

COMPLETED □

*(Spend as much time discussing this as he wants. Remind him that he should say the 95 Alláh-u-Abhá's everyday. Talk about how he can say them all at one time or, if he prefers, spread out during the day.)*

## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** At least once during each month, help plan a family night/day which will include prayers, music, Bahá'í stories or Writings, and games. Make it fun for everyone in your family.

COMPLETED

COMPLETED

*(Encourage the parents to see the spiritual and family unifying benefits of this activity. Suggest that they actively help the teen to make it a fun and meaningful experience for the whole family.*

*Eating a special treat at the end of the activity can be a wonderful way to conclude it.*

*Author's note: Our family has done Family Unity Nights (FUN) for 16 years and our children still ask to have them because they enjoy them so much. A Family Unity Night may include...Saying Opening Prayers, Reading from a Bahá'í Book, Discussing the Story, Singing Bahá'í Songs, Playing Games, Saying Closing Prayers, Eating a Special Snack or participating in any other activities that your family may enjoy. Be creative!*

**B-2** Learn about Bahá'í Consultation. What is necessary to have true Consultation? How and when can you use it? Try using Consultation to work out a family issue. Information on Consultation can be found in the [Compilation on Consultation](#) or by going to [www.bahai.org/article-1-3-6-3.html](http://www.bahai.org/article-1-3-6-3.html) .

COMPLETED

*(Help your teen find the necessary information if he has difficulty doing this. Then, discuss some examples of how Consultation can be helpful using specific scenarios with which your teen can identify.)*

**B-3** Memorize a new Bahá'í prayer each month for the next 2 months including a prayer for family or parents and one for spiritual qualities. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

*(Remember to discuss the meaning of the prayers with your teen. Also, talk about the importance of learning a variety of prayers – prayers for all occasions.)*

**B-4** Memorize 12 principles of the Bahá'í Faith. You can find these in your Bahá'í Teaching Booklet or in the Appendix. Discuss with your counselor what each principle means.

COMPLETED

*(Discuss these in enough detail to be sure that your teen really understands them. This is a prerequisite for B-5.)*

**B-5** After completing B-4, practice role-playing teaching others about some of the 12 principles of the Faith. Do this with your family or counselor. Did you know that the Persian word for 'teaching' actually means 'announcing'? How does this make your approach to teaching the Faith different?

COMPLETED

*(Make sure the role-playing is a fun experience. Include a lot of positive encouragement to give the teen enough confidence to want to share the Faith with others.)*

### C. SERVICE

**C-1** What is a Fireside? How many people need to be involved in order for something to be considered a fireside? Does this kind of meeting need to be held in any particular place? Give a fireside (an informal discussion about aspects of the Bahá'í Faith) on the theme of the elimination of prejudice of all kinds, including religious prejudice. This can be a large event or a one-on-one opportunity to share something about the Faith with a non-Bahá'í friend.

COMPLETED

*(Discuss the wide range of activities that can be considered Firesides. Encourage your teen to give whichever type of Fireside he feels comfortable giving.)*

**C-2** Critique your fireside experience. What worked well and what could be done better? Discuss this with your counselor.

COMPLETED

*(Always be as encouraging as possible with your teen and help her find new ways to do those things better which didn't work out as well as she had hoped.)*

**C-3** Plan and conduct part of a Bahá'í gathering, such as a Feast Consultation or a Youth Class, focusing on the elimination of prejudice. Include time to discuss how current events point out the prejudices that are still apparent in the local and global community. Be ready to share some examples of these to get the discussion started. Ask your counselor or parent for any assistance that you may need.

COMPLETED

*(Assist your teen in getting Writings and any other necessary materials. He may also want to discuss current events with you to help him prepare his examples of prejudice.)*

### III. UNITY AND HUMANITY (2 MONTHS)

Prejudices are a barrier to the realization of Oneness and to the establishment of World Peace.

#### A. STUDY

**A-1** Read one book about Abdu'l-Bahá's life or His visit to America. What can you learn from Him? Why was He called the Perfect Example?

COMPLETED

*(Recommended books are listed in the Appendix. Be sure to include in your discussion the station of Ábdu'l-Bahá and how it is unique to this Dispensation.)*

**A-2** Read 6 tablets from the Writings of Ábdu'l-Bahá where He is teaching the Faith to others. This includes almost all of the talks He gave. List ways in which He taught that would be good for you to emulate. Discuss these with your counselor.

COMPLETED

*(Recommended sources are listed in the Appendix. Also, remind your teen that she may look up Writings on the Internet, etc.)*

**A-3** Read a short book about a hero or heroine of the Bahá'í Faith. After reading the book, discuss with your counselor the power of example demonstrated by the hero or heroine. What can you learn from her/him? How can you relate this to your own life?

COMPLETED □

*(Recommended books are listed in the Appendix. Discuss the concept of sacrifice when talking about the life of the hero/heroine. Have your teen think about and discuss how he could possibly sacrifice some of his time and/or money for the Faith.)*



## **B. PROJECT**

**B-1** Memorize one Bahá'í prayer each month for the next 2 months. Memorize one in another language during this period. At the end of each month, recite the prayer to your counselor.

PRAYER 1

PRAYER 2

*(Even if the teen is already bilingual, if she is taking a different language in school, encourage her to learn a prayer in that language. The Bahá'í Publishing Trust has prayer books in a variety of other languages.)*

**B-2** With your counselor read through and discuss the whole Bahá'í Teaching Booklet. Make sure that you understand the information in it.

COMPLETED

*(If you are not very familiar with this booklet, it would be extremely helpful to carefully read through it first yourself. Spend up to an hour, but not longer, going through the booklet with your teen.)*

**B-3** Role-play sharing the Faith with others using the knowledge you have gained so far. Role-play at least 4 scenarios with your family, counselor, or Bahá'í school teacher.

COMPLETED

*(To make this a truly meaningful experience, help your teen think of scenarios that he will be likely to encounter in his own life and role-play these.)*

**B-4** Attend a holiday celebration of a culture other than your own, or a religious service with which you are unfamiliar. With your family or counselor, discuss how this activity can assist individuals in eliminating prejudices.

COMPLETED

*(Have your teen ask others about, or look in newspapers for, information on holiday celebrations. However, if your teen has not experienced different types of religious services, this may be the better choice for her. It will help your teen teach more effectively if she understands something about other people's experience of religion.)*



## C. SERVICE

**C-1** Discuss the importance of the Bahá'í Fund with your counselor. Learn about the Local, National and International Bahá'í Funds. Talk about who can give to the Funds, how much should you give, and what the money is used for in each Fund. Make a special Fund box to donate to your community to use at Feast and a smaller personal one for yourself to use to help you save money for the Fund. Your counselor has the directions for making one kind of Fund box, but feel free to make any sort of Fund boxes that you would like. Just remember that they need to be dignified. For two months, put money in your personal Fund box whenever you can. Take the money you saved to Feast to give to the Fund. Also, present your new Local Community Fund box at the Feast. (A teen who is not a Bahá'í can donate his money to a charity and use the Community Fund box as a place for his family to collect money to donate to charity.)

COMPLETED □

*(Talk about the Bahá'í Fund with your teen. Explain in detail who can give to the Fund and how much one should give. Fully describe the Local, National, and International Funds and explain how donated money is used. Discuss the importance of each Bahá'í giving to the Fund at whatever level he is able. Encourage your teen to continue giving to the Fund after the two month period is over. Remember, a non-Bahá'í teen can give his money to charity. To make one type of Community fund box – Find a medium-sized box that easily opens at the top. Using very sticky double-stick tape, attach attractive, shiny, single colored wrapping paper to all of the outside areas of the box. Remind your teen to do this very neatly as it must have a dignified appearance. Then attach beautiful pictures of the Bahá'í Houses of Worship and Holy Places to the box. Place envelopes inside of the box in which community members may place their donations if desired.*

*For the teen's own personal box, discuss different artistic possibilities with him. After making it, have your teen place the box in his room in a place where he will see it frequently to remind him to contribute.)*

**C-2** In consultation with your parents, pick a specific project you can work on that helps others. Possibilities include assisting with a Bahá'í Children's Class for at least one month, working on a Habitat for Humanity house, working with disadvantaged children or doing a project to help the environment. Or select a helpful project of your own that will be meaningful for you to do.

COMPLETED

*(Stress the idea of a project that is meaningful to the teen. Teens, like all others, are more likely to continue to give service in ways that are important to them.)*

**C-3** Using what you have learned from these award requirements, share the Faith with 3 friends or acquaintances who know little or nothing about the Bahá'í Faith. Afterward, share your teaching stories with your counselor and/or at Feast.

COMPLETED

*(Hopefully, this will be a culminating experience for your teen, demonstrating to him how much he has learned through this award, thereby giving him the confidence to continue sharing the Faith with others.)*

Counselor's Note: When all requirements have been met, sit down with your teen and summarize all that she has accomplished. Praise her for the outstanding job she has done. After this, you may make an appointment with the Local Spiritual Assembly or registered Bahá'í Group to present the teen and her manual for approval. This meeting should be a brief account of her accomplishments, not a review.

The members of the appropriate Institution or group should offer congratulations. This may be the first time the teen has met formally with the Institution and its attitude should be one of Bahá'í love. At this meeting, the Institution should fill out the Application for the Unity of Mankind Award Emblem and forward it to the Bahá'í Committee on Scouting at the Bahá'í National Center. Any cost for the medal should be born by the local Institution.

After the material is received from the Bahá'í National Center, an appropriate presentation ceremony should be planned. It need not be extravagant, but it should be dignified. It can be planned as a part of a Feast (to stimulate community interest and congratulations re: the award), and as a special part of a Girl Scout Troop Meeting, Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting, or a Boy Scout Troop Court of Honor. The counselor, or another community member, should plan a short talk discussing, in general, the requirements of the award, and also a brief overview of the Faith to be presented at the Scout meeting award ceremony.

Be sure to take pictures of the teen and the counselor that may be submitted to the local newspaper along with a brief caption or article about the award.

# CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT

## UNITY OF MANKIND PROGRAM

A program of the  
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY  
of the  
BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Scouting Level \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Troop Number \_\_\_\_\_

Service Unit/Neighborhood/Council \_\_\_\_\_

Community Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*The above candidate has expressed a desire to attain the Bahá'í standards for:* (Please circle one.  
Example: Tiger/Bear/Wolf Cub/Webelos Scout)

**Level One:**

Daisy/Brownie Girl Scout (K-3)  
Tiger /Bear /Wolf Cub/Webelos  
Scout (1-4)

**Level Two:**

Junior /Cadette Girl Scout (4-7)  
Webelos Scout/Boy Scout (5-8)

**Level Three:**

Cadette/Senior Girl Scout (8-12)  
Boy Scout (9-12)

Bahá'í Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Bahá'í Community \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# APPLICATION FOR EMBLEM

## UNITY OF MANKIND PROGRAM

A program of the  
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY  
of the  
BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Scouting Level \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

*The above candidate has completed the requirements for:* (Please circle one. Example:

**Daisy/Brownie Girl Scout**)

**Level One:**

Daisy/Brownie Girl Scout (K-3)  
Tiger /Bear /Wolf Cub/Webelos  
Scout (1-4)

**Level Two:**

Junior /Cadette Girl Scout (4-7)  
Webelos Scout/Boy Scout (5-8)

**Level Three:**

Cadette/Senior Girl Scout (8-12)  
Boy Scout (9-12)

To receive your emblem, please complete this form, indicating to whom the medal should be sent. **Please include a \$5.00 check made out to *Bahá'í Services Fund*, and mail to:**

Bahá'í Committee on Scouting  
Bahá'í National Center  
1233 Central St.  
Evanston, IL 60201

Scout's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Medal to be sent to \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXCEPTIONS TO THE PROGRAM**

The Unity of Mankind Emblem Program is designed to challenge and deepen Bahá'í youth, and others interested in the Bahá'í Faith, and to give them a way to become a better world citizen. If, due to a handicap, a candidate is unable to complete a certain requirement, the counselor should submit a letter to the Bahá'í Committee on Scouting, stating the reason for the difficulty and suggesting alternate requirements. These exceptions will be dealt with on an individual basis and should in no way affect the goal of the Unity of Mankind Emblem Program.

## WHAT BAHÁ'ÍS BELIEVE

### *To the Counselor and Parent(s):*

The following quotations are designed so you can help younger and older children understand some of the essential principles of the Bahá'í Faith. The process will be reinforced if you explain new words and concepts as you read the passages together.

### **1. One God**

*Inasmuch as our God is one God and the creator of all mankind, He provides for and protects all. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 369*

### **2. The Oneness of Humankind**

*Know ye, verily, that the happiness of mankind lieth in the unity and the harmony of the human race, and that spiritual and material developments are conditioned upon love and amity among all men. --'Ábdu'l-Bahá, Selections from the Writings of 'Ábdu'l-Bahá, p. 286*

### **3. The Oneness of the Foundations of All Religions**

*There can be no doubt whatever that the peoples of the world, of whatever race or religion, derive their inspiration from one heavenly Source, and are the subjects of one God. The difference between the ordinances under which they abide should be attributed to the varying requirements and exigencies of the age in which they were revealed. -- Bahá'u'lláh, Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 217*

### **4. Religion as the Cause of Unity**

*The fundamental purpose animating the Faith of God and His Religion is to safeguard the interests and promote the unity of the human race, and to foster the spirit of love and fellowship amongst men. Suffer it not to become a source of dissension and discord, of hate and enmity. -- Bahá'u'lláh, Gleaning from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 215*

## **5. Independent Investigation of the Truth**

*In order to find truth we must give up our prejudices, our own small trivial notions; an open receptive mind is essential....No truth can contradict another truth. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, Paris Talks, pp. 136-37*

## **6. The Essential Harmony of Science and Religion**

*Whatever the intelligence of man cannot understand, religion ought not to accept. Religion and science walk hand in hand, and any religion contrary to science is not the truth. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, Paris Talks, p. 131*

## **7. The Equality of Women and Men**

*Humanity is like a bird with its two wings – the one is male, the other female. Unless both wings are strong...the bird cannot fly heavenwards. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era by John Esselmont, p. 147*

## **8. The Elimination of Prejudice of All Kinds**

*Let us strive to blot out from our lives every last trace of prejudice – racial, religious, political, economic, national, tribal, class, cultural, and that which is based on differences of education or age. --Universal House of Justice, Lights of Guidance, p. 528*

## **9. Universal Compulsory Education**

*Bahá'u'lláh has announced that inasmuch as ignorance and lack of education are barriers of separation among mankind, all must receive training and instruction. Through this provision the lack of mutual understanding will be remedied and the unity of mankind furthered and advanced. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 300*

## **10. Spiritual Solutions to Social and Economic Problems**

*There are spiritual principles, or what some call human values, by which solutions can be found for every social problem....Leaders of governments and all in authority would be well served in their efforts to solve problems if they would first seek to identify the principles involved and then be guided by them. --The Universal House of Justice, The Promise of World Peace - To the Peoples of the World, Section II*

## **11. A Universal Auxiliary Language**

*We have enjoined upon the Trustees of the House of Justice either to choose one of the existing tongues, or to originate a new one, and in like manner to adopt a common script, teaching these to the children in all the schools of the world, that the world may become even as one land and one home. --Bahá'u'lláh, Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era by John Esselmont, p. 163*

## **12. Universal Peace Upheld by a World Federation**

*They [the world leaders] must make the Cause of Peace the object of general consultation, and seek by every means in their power to establish a Union of the nations of the world....This supreme and noble undertaking--the real source of the peace and well-being of all the world-- should be regarded as sacred by all that dwell on earth. --'Abdu'l-Bahá, The Secret of Divine Civilization, p. 64*

## Suggested Reading List

All Bahá'í materials can be ordered from the Bahá'í Distribution Service (1-800-999-9019). Call to request a complete list of books available or email them at [bds@usbnc.org](mailto:bds@usbnc.org). You will get the list more quickly if you have them email it to you. Some materials may also be purchased from local bookstores, borrowed from local libraries, or perhaps borrowed from your local Bahá'í community. Some non-Bahá'í materials (n/b) have also been included. You may find these at a public library. Please note that the required Bahá'í materials are easily obtainable and inexpensive.

### Required Materials

- \* *Bahá'í Prayer Book*
- \* *Bahá'í Faith Teaching Booklet*
- \* *Kitáb-I-Aqdas*
- \* *The 5 Year Plan Youth Message from the Universal House of Justice* (In booklet form or accessed via the Internet.)
- \* *Assorted Bahá'í Books of Your Teen's Choice.*

*With new Bahá'í books being published all the time, feel free to select other Bahá'í books that are not listed, as long as they are comparable to those listed and are age appropriate for your child. A variety of additional Bahá'í books may be ordered through the Bahá'í Distribution Service (1-800-999-9019), Kalimat Press (1-800-788-4067), or Special Ideas (1-800-326-1197).*

**Suggested Materials by Topic** (many of these materials encompass several topics):

### 'Abdu'l-Bahá

- \* *Stories of 'Abdu'l-Bahá* by Jacqueline Mehrabi
  - \* *Vignettes from the Life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, collected and edited by Annamarie Honnold
  - \* *'Abdu'l-Bahá in America (A Diary)* by Agnes Parson
  - \* *'Abdu'l-Bahá – The Master* by George Townsend
  - \* *Servant of the Glory – The Life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá* by Mary Perkins
- (The following 2 books are currently out of print, but they are worth borrowing.)
- \* *The Chosen Highway* by Lady Blomfield
  - \* *Ten Days in the Light of Akká* by Julia M. Grundy

## **Báb**

- \* *Release the Sun* by William Sears
- \* *A Traveler's Narrative* by 'Abdu'l-Bahá

## **Bahá'í Prayers**

- \* *Bahá'í Prayers* (There are a number of Bahá'í Prayer Books from which to choose.)

## **Bahá'í Writings**

- \* *Paris Talks – Addresses Given by 'Abdu'l-Bahá*
- \* *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*
- \* *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*
- \* *The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh*
- \* *Jewels from the Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá: Love*
- \* *The Divine Art of Living – A Compilation of Bahá'í Writings*
- \* *The Promulgation of Universal Peace* by 'Abdu'l-Bahá
- \* *Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh*
- \* *Writings of Bahá'u'lláh – A Compilation*

## **Bahá'u'lláh**

- \* *Journey into Exile – The Story of Bahá'u'lláh* by Mary Firman
- \* *From Mountain to Mountain – Stories about Bahá'u'lláh* by Hitjo Garst
- \* *Stories of Bahá'u'lláh –* by A. A. Furutan
- \* *Remember My Days – The Life Story of Bahá'u'lláh* by Lowell Johnson
- \* *Ali's Dream – The Story of Bahá'u'lláh* by John Hatcher
- \* *My Memories of Bahá'u'lláh* by Ustad Salmani

## **Unity and Oneness**

- \* *The Bahá'í Faith* by Patrick Vickers
- \* *Overcoming Barriers to Unity* by Stephen E. Ellis
- \* *The Pattern of Bahá'í Life*, compilation of Bahá'í Writings by Richard Backwell
- \* *Peace: More Than an End to War*, compilation of Bahá'í Writings
- \* *The Reality of Man*, from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá
- \* *Two Wings of a Bird: the Equality of Women and Men*, statement by the National Spiritual Assembly

## **Folk Tales**

- \* *The Illustrated Book of Myths, Tales and Legends of the World*, retold by Neil Philip (n/b)
- \* *The Sunshine Tree and Other Tales from Around the World*, retold by Wendy Heller

### **Heroes and Heroines**

- \* *From Copper to Gold* (Dorothy Baker) by D. Freeman
- \* *He Loved and Served* (Curtis Kelsey) by Nathan Rutstein
- \* *Martha Root* by Kay Zinky
- \* *Mullá Husayn* by Lowell Johnson
- \* *Quddús* by Lowell Johnson
- \* *Táhirih* by Lowell Johnson
- \* *To Move the World* (Louis Gregory) by Gail Morrison
- \* *Badi – Pride of Martyrs* by Ivan Llyod

### **General Resources**

- \* *Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era* by J.E. Esslemont
- \* *Consultation – A Compilation*
- \* *Five Year Plan* – from the Universal House of Justice
- \* *God Loves Laughter* by William Sears
- \* *The New Games Book* (cooperative, non-competitive games) (n/b) by New Games Foundation
- \* *Your True Brother, Messages to Junior Youth*, letters from Shoghi Effendi
- \* *Youth in the Vanguard* by Marion Carpenter Yazdi
- \* *Youth*, extracts from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Shoghi Effendi and the Universal House of Justice

## Suggested Music List

Materials can be ordered from the Bahá'í Distribution Service, (800) 999-9019. In some cases, you may be able to purchase them from local book distributors or borrow them from local libraries. Also, you may be able to borrow them from your local Bahá'í community library or community members.

These are just some of the tapes available. New tapes are coming out all the time. Additional sources for music are the Kalimat Press and Special Ideas (telephone numbers listed above in Reading List information).

### **Songs on Oneness and Diversity**

#### *Tapes and CDs available from BDS*

The Flight Album (Although it is no longer available for sale, see if you can borrow it. There are some very good songs on it.)

We Are Bahá'ís (CD or cassette)

Teaching Peace, (CD or cassette)

Brilliant Star (Special Edition 1998) It's Up to Me (cassette)

#### *Songs to look and listen for:*

- \* Building Bridges
  - \* Flowers of the Garden
  - \* Good Neighbors Come in All Colors
  - \* Hooray for the World
  - \* I Think You're Wonderful
  - \* Listen
  - \* Love, Love, Love (Your Fellow Man)
  - \* The More We Get Together
  - \* Oh, Bahá'u'lláh
  - \* One in the Spirit
  - \* Rainbow Song
  - \* Unity Song
  - \* The Universal Band\*
  - \* We Are Drops
  - \* What Color is God's Skin?
- \* (*The Bahá'í World* volumes also include a number of appropriate songs)