

The Unification Church North American Headquarters

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Final Reminder -- Parents' Matching Convocation in Chicago, June 8-10

Joshua Cotter and Phillip Schanker May 30, 2012

MEMO: BFD 2012-05-30

To: District Directors, State & Church Leaders, Blessed Central Families From: National Blessed Family Ministry

Re: Parents' Matching Convocation IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS- June 8-10, 2012 Final Reminder & Information for Participating Candidates 24 & Older Date: May 30, 2012

Last Chance to Register!

We wish to remind you about a new and improved, educational and inspiring conference for parents to learn about and prepare for supporting their children in the matching process. As announced previously, the first **Parents Matching Convocation (PMC)** of 2012 will be held in Chicago, IL on **June 8-10**. Blessed Children who are 24 years or older are welcome to participate, and will have supplemental sessions to learn more about the process and how to prepare, meet with a Matching Advisor, and take a more active role in their own search for a partner. Important details and guidance for participating candidates follow. For further information, or to register, visit the www.familyfed.org members' homepage and click on the PMC banner, or go to www.blessedfamilies.org and click the pink PMC banner below the login area on the right.

NOTE: Candidate profiles from June, 2011 or before must be updated, or you must contact us at BFDadmin@unification.org, or they will not be made available at the PMC. See number **VI** below.

I. Location

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Chicago – Arlington Heights

75 W. Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 Telephone: (847) 364-7600; Fax: (847) 427-4298 http://doubletree1.hilton.com/en_US/dt/hotel/CHIARDT-DoubleTree-by-Hilton-Hotel-Chicago-Arlington-Heights-Illinois/index.do

II. Registration

Registration for the PMC is \$120 per person, \$200 per couple, and \$75 for each additional family member. This includes all convocation programs and materials, and a Family Matching Handbook. Candidates 24 and older attending individually pay a special rate of \$80. Accommodations and meals are the responsibility of each participant and there are several hotel choices nearby. There will be substantial time for meals and there are affordable restaurants and stores within walking distance of the conference hotel. For further information visit the online registration site.

III. Schedule

Onsite registration opens at 4:00 PM Friday November 18th (pre-registering online will save you time at the conference registration). The program begins with Orientation at 7:30 that evening, and closes at 2:00 PM on

Sunday, June 10th.

IV. Translation and Special Session for Japanese Participants

There will be translation available for Japanese participants for plenary sessions, and a special session for Japanese participants. Be sure to bring radios.

V. Transportation and Accommodations

There are large, comfortable rooms at the **Double Tree Hotel, Arlington Heights** (where the PMC will take place) for **\$99 per night, including breakfast for two, or \$89 without breakfast.** To obtain this rate, call the DoubleTree Hotel at **(510) 847-364-7600** as soon as possible, and ask for the "Lovin' Life Block Reservation." The hotel offers complimentary shuttle from O'Hare International Airport, subject to availability. After arriving at O'Hare, call the hotel to arrange for pickup and they will quote the time of the next shuttle pickup. Proceed to the Bus Shuttle Center, Door #3. If you prefer, the hotel can assist to arrange a discounted taxi but does not reimburse the cost of the taxi.

Other Options:

Red Roof Inn, Arlington Heights (3 minute walk to DoubleTree)

\$59.99 per day 22 W. Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, IL Phone: http://redroof.com/reservations/property-detail.aspx?pid=00102

<u>Motel 6</u> (3 minute walk to DoubleTree)

\$49.99 per day

441 W. Algonquin Rd, Arlington Heights, IL Phone: (847) 806-1230 http://www.motel6.com/reservations/motel_detail.aspx?num=1048&VID=&NOA=1&aYr=2012&aMo=06& aDa=08&dYr=2012&dMo=06&dDa=10&CP=&TA=&BTR=/AccorMaps/M6ProximityResults.aspx?searcht ype=C

VI. Preparing or Updating Candidate Profiles

IMPORTANT: Candidate profiles from June, 2011 or before will NOT be displayed at the PMC unless you update them or contact us at bfdadmin@unification.org. We strongly recommend profiles be updated and improved, <u>with your adult child's permission and participation</u>. We will not display any old profiles unless we have heard from the candidate that they wish to be displayed.

Parents may attend the PMC without displaying a candidate. Candidates can also be displayed at the PMC without their parents being present. But candidates can only be displayed with their permission and involvement. No parent should attempt to display their adult child as a candidate or pursue a match without the candidate's involvement.

To be available at the PMC, every candidate and family should do the following:

A. <u>Complete the candidate profile page at the PMC registration site</u>. This will allow candidates to participate in Matchbook, PMCs, or both, and to designate their preferred level of accessibility.

B. <u>Complete the additional 9-question personality profile at the profile page</u>- optional for Matchbook participants but <u>required for candidates at the PMC</u>. Candidates should complete these profiles themselves. NOTE: Unless all 9 questions are answered, the profile cannot be printed for display.

C. <u>Upload three good-quality photos at the profile page</u>: one half-length (head & torso) and one full-length of the candidate and one family photo. The profile and photos are required, but can be uploaded after

registration. These must be uploaded <u>by **June 1st**</u> for the Chicago PMC. If parents bring photos or profiles to the PMC that require scanning or copying to be displayed, there will be a \$20 charge, and we cannot guarantee how quickly the material will be ready for display.

Some other good ideas for preparing candidate profiles for the PMC:

> Visit the link below and use one or more of the resources recommended there to more fully understand your adult child's character, and prepare a fuller profile:

http://www.familyfed.org/members/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=949 &Itemid=626

Be creative! A poem, photo montage or personal story also conveys who you are, and can be added to your profile at the PMC. Parents can also prepare "contact cards" with the candidate's picture and your family's contact info to give to other parents at the PMC.

For additional information visit the registration site or contact BFDadmin@unification.org. We look forward to seeing parents at the PMC and to supporting candidates in the process of matching and Blessing.

May God be with you and your family.

Sincerely,

Rev. Joshua Cotter Executive Vice President Unification Church - USA

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Rev. Phillip Schanker Director, Blessed Family Ministry Unification Church - USA