

# Frequently Asked Questions by Iowa HOBY Staff

**Q: Where will the seminar be held?**

A: The seminar will take place at Central College, Pella, Iowa. (Pella is located approximately one hour east of Des Moines.)

**Q: When will the seminar be held?**

A: The Seminar will take place **June 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**.

**Q: When should staff arrive and when is training?**

A: All staff are required to arrive at Central College on **June 14<sup>th</sup>**:

- Junior Staff training and prep time will begin at 1:00 p.m.
- Staff attending the optional Senior Staff Training should arrive by 4:00 p.m. – location TBD.
- All Senior Staff must check-in on campus between 6-6:45 p.m. at Scholte Residence Hall. You will be directed to staff training which will begin at 7p.m.
- All Staff training commences at 7 p.m. If you will be arriving late, please let Lesley Anderson or Emily Ciha know ([seniorstaff@iahoby.org](mailto:seniorstaff@iahoby.org) or 515-490-0185 or [cihae1@central.edu](mailto:cihae1@central.edu) 319-331-7004).

You must be present for the entire seminar weekend.

**Q: What kind of program is planned?**

A: During the HOBY seminar experience, many dynamic leaders – all volunteers from the fields of business, education, government, and the professions – will address numerous aspects of our changing world and the challenges future leaders will confront. The program will not promote any specific political party, business, religion, or way of thinking; it is designed to develop an awareness of present and future issues by actively involving seminar participants in discussions and informal debate. Student-ambassadors will have the opportunity to ask questions of the discussion leaders throughout the weekend, which leads to a greater understanding of topics presented. Student-ambassadors will be asked to become part of HOBY's commitment to Leadership for Service. By undertaking a community service project(s) involving at least 100 hours in the year following their HOBY seminar, they will have the opportunity to join 14,000 other HOBY Ambassadors in making a difference in their schools and communities. The program includes outstanding speakers, entertainment, and a special closing ceremony to which the ambassadors' parents are invited to attend.

**Q: What are the accommodations like?**

A: Meetings will be held in air-conditioned class and conference rooms located at Central College. Meals and sleeping accommodations will be provided beginning Thursday evening through Sunday lunch. Coffee will be available in the dining hall each morning. Each person must provide their own linens (i.e., towels, blankets, sheets, pillows, etc.) and toiletries. Also consider bringing sunscreen, an umbrella, a digital camera (to help take pictures throughout the weekend—bring your USB cords!).

**Q: Do I need to bring money to the seminar?**

A: No, but we do suggest bringing at least \$10-15 if you would like a group picture and then any additional money you would like to use at the HOBY Store.

**Q: Do I need to bring anything for my group?**

(Some staff will be assigned as group facilitators. You will know your roll before arriving at seminar)

A: No. This is completely optional, but we do encourage it. Feel free to bring candy, toys and any other kind of item that you feel would be fun for your group. Anything that helps your group stand out from the others is most welcomed. Ice-Breakers and Team-Builders will be available, but feel free to bring some of your own. Remember, we are all here to learn, but also to have a good time.

**Q: If necessary, how may I be contacted during the seminar?**

A: In case of emergency, people may contact campus security at 641-780-2847. Cell phones and pagers are strongly discouraged during all seminar events except on Saturday morning during community service projects. Family and friends are discouraged from contacting ambassadors and staff during the seminar due to the intensity of the program.

**Q: Who pays for the seminar?**

A: All costs except travel expense have been paid by sponsors throughout Iowa, including service organizations, businesses, foundations, and individuals wishing to support leadership education. Junior Staff are required to fundraise a \$175 program sponsorship and Senior Staff are encouraged, but not required to provide Gift-In-Kind items prior to seminar as well as monetary donations to support seminar operations. Our greatest need for Gift in Kind donations is first class postage.

**Q: What exactly am I getting into?**

A: You are going to be involved in 3 days of high spirited, thought provoking, educational and fun activities. The curriculum includes panels, speakers, cheers, group competitions, and other spirit building activities. All activities are designed to challenge the ambassadors thinking and empower them to make positive change in their own communities when they return home. If you have never participated in an event like this before, don't worry, you will fit right in. Arrive well rested- sleep is at a premium.

**Q: What should I wear at the seminar?**

A: **Friday:** Business casual- Khaki/tan pants (i.e. casual-dress Dockers) or dress shorts are appropriate. Comfortable shoes are a must.

**Saturday:**

- [Morning, Community Service Project] T-Shirts will be provided for the community service project. Each small group will be assigned to a community service project on or near Central College. Your exact project will not be known until you arrive. Please bring pants (jeans) and close toed shoes in case your project requires them. Consider bringing work gloves if you have them. Also consider comfortable shoes that may get dirty. Wear clothes that can get dirty/stained/painted/etc.
- [Afternoon] After the community service project there will be time to shower and clean up. The remainder of Saturday you should wear comfortable, "business casual" clothes (essentially the same type of clothes you wore on Friday).
- Returning Staff: If you still have your staff shirts from previous (or other) HOBY seminars, you are also welcome to wear these on Saturday afternoon.

**Sunday:** You will meet the parents of the students in your group during the banquet and closing ceremonies. Men should wear either a suit or dress shirt and dress pants. Women should wear a dress or pantsuit. (Note, this is "Sunday Best", not Formal Attire)

**Q: What if I have more questions?**

A: Feel free to contact the co-directors of Senior Staff, Lesley Anderson – at 515-490-0185 or [seniorstaff@iahoby.org](mailto:seniorstaff@iahoby.org) or Emily Ciha – at [cihae1@central.edu](mailto:cihae1@central.edu) 319-331-7004; or the Director of Junior Staff, Brianna Aube - [juniorstaff@iahoby.org](mailto:juniorstaff@iahoby.org).