

# ***YALLI:*** **Young Adult Life and Leadership Initiative**



**SHALEM**  
INSTITUTE FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION & APPLICATION** **CLASS OF 2017**

**Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation**  
3025 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017  
Telephone: (301)897-7334 • Fax: (202) 595-0036  
*Website: [www.Shalem.org](http://www.Shalem.org)*



## YALLI: YOUNG ADULT LIFE AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Class of 2017

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

*"It was so helpful to go deeper, to be quiet, to be able to hear what I'm being called to do...and to share this experience with others."*

—A Participant

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW & BACKGROUND

*A program to nurture the spiritual life and strengthen the contemplative foundation of leadership for young adults*

YALLI: Young Adult Life and Leadership Initiative is for young adults (approximately ages 25-40) who seek a deeper spiritual foundation for their lives and work and who welcome the support of a like-minded community. This program is grounded in the Christian contemplative tradition yet it draws on the wisdom of many religious traditions to offer support for everyday living. In the midst of the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this program provides concrete help in the struggle to live authentically with compassion, strength and vision.



## GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Program Timeline

<b>Application Deadline:</b>	August 12, 2016
<b>At-Home Preparation:</b>	September 2016
<b>First Residency:</b>	October 27-30, 2016 Dayspring Retreat Center, Germantown, MD
<b>Second Residency:</b>	May 25-28, 2017 Dayspring Retreat Center
<b>Final Gathering:</b>	November 4, 2017 Shalem Library, Washington, DC
<b>At-Home Completion</b>	December 30, 2017 Final integration paper due

*“The  
residency  
allowed me to  
slow down  
and feel God  
in my heart.”*

—A Participant

### Who Should Apply?

*YALLI*: Young Adult Life and Leadership Initiative is designed for those who are:

- Approximately between the ages of 25-40;
- Desiring to deepen the spiritual foundation of their personal and professional life;
- Seeking a mutually supportive spiritual community with other young adults;
- Drawn to exploring the contemplative tradition, including prayer and meditation practices;
- Willing to learn within a broad ecumenical Christian framework that also welcomes the wisdom and practice of other faith traditions; and
- At a point in life that is not full of overwhelming crisis, emotionally or vocationally.

### Staff and Mentors

Additional staff persons may be chosen, depending on the needs of the program..

#### Staff:

**Hayley O'Connor**, the co-director of *YALLI*, is a Presbyterian pastor serving Fairmile Parish Church in Edinburgh, Scotland. She is a graduate of Shalem's pilot *YALLI* program and Shalem's *Nurturing the Call*: Spiritual Guidance Program. She co-led Shalem's young adult pilgrimage to Edinburgh and is also part of Shalem's pilgrimage leadership team.

**William (Bill) Stone**, the co-director of *YALLI*, is a Presbyterian pastor serving Greenback Parish Church in Edinburgh, Scotland, and is a graduate of Shalem's *YALLI* pilot program. He co-led Shalem's young adult pilgrimage to Edinburgh and is also part of Shalem's pilgrimage leadership team.

**Margaret Benefiel**, Shalem's Executive Director, holds a PhD in Spirituality from Catholic University and an M.A. in Theology from Earlham School of Religion. She is a graduate of Shalem's *Nurturing the Call*: Spiritual Guidance Program and the author of numerous articles and books on contemplative leadership.

**Trish Stefanik** is the Program Administrator for this Program and for *Transforming Community*: Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats Program and *Going Deeper*: Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership Program. A Roman Catholic, she is an experienced

ecumenical retreat leader and artist who delights in opening a way for creativity and contemplation.

**Mentors:**

**Carole Crumley** is an Episcopal priest and an experienced pilgrimage guide to sacred and secular sites throughout Europe, the Middle East and the U.S. She is the director of *Going Deeper: Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership Program*, Class of 2016, and leads Shalem’s e-course, “Opening to the Spirit,” for Shalem’s School of Contemplative Prayer.

**Anne Grizzle** is a family therapist, retreat leader and spiritual director who has been faculty for Shalem’s group spiritual direction offerings and *Living in God: Personal Spiritual Deepening Program*. She is a graduate of Shalem’s Facilitating Group Spiritual Direction Program and is the author of three books including *Reminders of God*.

**Al Keeney** is an Episcopal priest and spiritual director in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York. He is a retreat and pilgrimage leader and has taught workshops in spiritual direction, journaling, contemplative prayer and praying with icons.

**Kristy Malochee** is a graduate of Shalem’s *Living in God: Personal Spiritual Deepening Program*. She has also been a mentor in that program and a participant in group spiritual direction for many years. Her recent work includes leading a six-month, weekly group for young adults to experience Heart Prayer.

**Leah Rampy**, a long-time retreat and pilgrimage leader, mentor and executive coach, has worked with YALLI since its inception and was Shalem’s executive director from 2009-2015. She is especially interested in contemplative leadership and in our deep connections to Earth and all of life and has launched Common Ground Habitat and Farm in the Shenandoah Valley, a small site dedicated to honoring the beauty and wisdom of the land.

**Patience Robbins** is a graduate of Shalem's *Nurturing the Call: Spiritual Guidance Program* and has been a spiritual director for over 25 years. A member of Shalem's adjunct staff since 1997, she was the director of Shalem's *Living in God: Personal Spiritual Deepening Program* from 2003-08 and the director of YALLI from 2013-2015. She is the author of *Parenting: A Sacred Path*.



**Program Fees**

Application fee (non-refundable)	\$ 45	
<hr/>		
Tuition and residency fees:	<u>6/30/16</u>	<u>8/12/16</u>
Deposit, due upon acceptance (non-refundable)	\$ 500	\$ 500
Remaining fees, payable in installments:		
Includes Room & Board for 2 residencies	\$2,400	\$2,550
Total price of the program (includes start-up materials, program staff and administration and residency fees)	\$2,900	\$3,050

The program fees shown above cover about 75-80% of the total costs. The balance is funded by gifts from donors, and as a result, their prayers as well as their financial support accompany you in this program.

The standard installment payment plan for the program fees:

	<u>6/30/16</u>	<u>8/12/16</u>
Upon acceptance & commitment	\$ 500	\$ 500
9/1/16	\$ 800	\$ 850
1/1/17	\$ 800	\$ 850
3/1/17	\$ 800	\$ 850

Please contact the Finance Office for more information.

### **Tuition Assistance**

In some cases of financial need, Shalem is able to offer limited tuition reduction depending on your need and the number of other requests. We ask that you prayerfully consider the amount you are able to pay and the amount you are requesting. We encourage applicants to look for sources of funding from their churches or religious affiliations. If you wish to be considered for reduced tuition, please submit a completed Tuition Assistance Form at the time of your application; the form is provided in this packet.

## **PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

### **Program Residential Retreats**

We will have two four-day residential retreats at Dayspring Retreat Center, Germantown, Maryland—a sacred place set aside for silence, solitude, reflection and prayer in the midst of nature. All rooms are singles; linens are provided. These retreats are formative in building spiritual community and deepening spiritual practices. They will also include seminars on discernment, contemplative leadership and a silent retreat.

### **At-Home Program Components**

The at-home components of YALLI include:

- A personal spiritual practice, including a daily discipline of prayer/meditation/presence for God;
- Participation in Shalem’s online education programs;
- Monthly reflections about your spiritual life and leadership with your staff mentor, who will be a resource for you throughout the program;
- Peer reflection sessions with other participants that meet in person or by telephone every four to six weeks for mutual support, accountability and encouragement; *Shalem will provide guidelines for reflection. The first session will be guided by the staff mentor; other sessions are scheduled by participants.*
- Selected required readings, plus many optional readings, on spiritual life, leadership, environmental concerns and peace-making initiatives;
- An opportunity to design and carry out an independent project, supervised by a Shalem mentor; and
- A final reflection paper based on your experience in the program.

A **Certificate of Completion** is awarded at the end of the program to all participants who have met the program requirements.

*“The program created a safe and easy space to listen and respond to God and deepen my relationship with God.”*

—A Participant





**YALLI:**  
**YOUNG ADULT LIFE AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE**  
**Class of 2017**  
**APPLICATION FORM - Page 1**

*\$45 non-refundable application fee can be paid through the Shalem webstore or a check may be mailed payable to Shalem. (Application Deadline is August 12, 2016)*

**Note:** Application deadline is the date the registrar must RECEIVE the completed application.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Home City, State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_ Work City, State Zip

PHONES \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Cell Work

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION (IF APPLICABLE) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Denomination & Community/Congregation)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION (IF ANY) \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ HIGHEST EARNED ACADEMIC DEGREE \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

HEALTH CONCERNS THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE RESIDENCES

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS PROGRAM? (e.g., personal referral? Ad in a periodical? Web site?)

PLEASE INDICATE THE NAME(S) OF ANY SHALEM STAFF MEMBER OR GRADUATE WHOM YOU KNOW FAIRLY WELL:

OUTLINE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:

OUTLINE YOUR PRIMARY VOCATIONAL HISTORY:

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE? \_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_NO ARE YOU MAILING A CHECK? \_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_NO  
ARE YOU APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE? \_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_NO IF YES, PLEASE ENCLOSE SCHOLARSHIP FORM.



## YALLI: YOUNG ADULT LIFE AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Class of 2017

APPLICATION FORM - Page 2

### SHORT ESSAY

Please provide a short essay (one to three double-spaced pages) that includes answers to the following questions:

- Why are you feeling called to YALLI at this time in your life?
- What kinds of learning and support would you hope for in this program related to your spiritual life and leadership?
- What is already in place in terms of spiritual support for you (spiritual director, support groups, prayer/meditation practice, regular worship and participation in a spiritual community, etc.)?
- Give two examples of current or past community- or service-related activities that reflect your spiritual concerns.
- Describe briefly any books, articles, tapes, films, or events that have particularly affected your spiritual understanding in recent years.

### RECOMMENDATION

Below, please list the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two people you have asked to write a recommendation for you. Please ask them to send us a letter of recommendation before the application deadline (6/30/2016 early bird or 7/31/2016 regular), following the enclosed form. (Indicate the deadline on the Recommendation Form.)

*Please return completed application form to:*

SHALEM INSTITUTE, 3025 Fourth Street, NE, Suite 22, Washington, DC 20017



## YALLI: YOUNG ADULT LIFE AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

### RECOMMENDATION FORM

*\*Please Note: Application deadline is 8/12/16. This is the date that the registrar must RECEIVE the letter of recommendation.*

DEAR \_\_\_\_\_,

As part of my application for the YALLI: Young Adult Life and Leadership Initiative, I am asking you to write a letter of recommendation for me. Please address the questions listed below and provide any additional information that might help Shalem evaluate my application. Please send your response, along with this form, to Shalem by \_\_\_\_\_ . (Please insert registration deadline.)

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant)

- How do you know this person?
- Why would you recommend this individual for this program?
- What is your sense of how this program is a good match for this person?
- What qualities of leadership are demonstrated in this person's life and work?

*Please send your response to:*

SHALEM INSTITUTE FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION  
3025 Fourth Street, NE, Suite 22, Washington, DC 20017  
Telephone: (301) 897-7334, ext. 1005 • Fax: (202) 595-0036  
e-mail: [info@shalem.org](mailto:info@shalem.org) • website: [www.shalem.org](http://www.shalem.org)

# Shalem Long-Term Programs in the Contemplative Tradition

## TUITION ASSISTANCE FORM

*Shalem is able to offer reduced tuition for a limited number of participants. Reductions are limited to a portion of tuition and are not available for room and board for residencies. Please consider carefully and prayerfully your expenses and income as you apply for assistance. Information you provide relative to this request will be kept confidential.*

Program to which you are applying:

- Spiritual Guidance
- Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats
- Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership
- Young Adult Life and Leadership Initiative

Name _____
Address _____ _____
Telephone _____
E-Mail _____

Faith Tradition _____
Are You: Lay <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/>
If you are able to volunteer in the Shalem office, please add any days/times available here and add any particular skills you have to offer:

Cost of Shalem program tuition _____
Your contribution _____
Amount of reduced tuition you request for this program _____
Estimated family income for the program's duration _____
Estimated essential expenses, total _____
Have you explored a potential contribution from other sources? Please explain: _____
If they are positive, how much might they contribute? _____

Any other comments that would assist us in evaluating your request for tuition assistance:
--

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PROGRAM APPLICATION AND/OR REGISTRATION TO:  
**SHALEM INSTITUTE FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION, INC.**  
3025 Fourth Street, NE, Suite 22  
Washington, DC 20017