



The **Young Scotland Programme** exists to stretch the minds broaden the horizons *and* develop the communication skills of people in the early years of their careers.

It helps to build confidence where it is fragile, and to enhance the ability of more accomplished delegates.

Although the minimum age for entry on the programme is 18, **there is no upper age limit**: delegates may be young in years, or in terms of professional development, or both.

# Young Scotland Programme Spring 2012

**Apply now for a free place...**

The Spring 2012 programme, run by the Institute of Contemporary Scotland – an educational charity – will be a very special event. It will bring together, **free of charge, 25 selected delegates from invited organisations** in the public, private and voluntary sectors for three intensive days.

**A vital part of the programme is the presentation by each delegate of a 900-word paper (“Argument”) on a topic – of the delegate's choice – of current interest or controversy.**

Researched, written and submitted in advance, the paper is delivered and adjudicated during the event. Our coaches provide useful advice – in a written briefing before the programme and then in rehearsal before the papers are presented.

**Argument** is part of the competitive element of the programme along with **On the Spot**, in which delegates ask themselves a question on a topic of their own choice and then answer it without notes in as close to three minutes as possible!

But there's much more...

The lively **Yes, No, Don't Know** debates on hot issues of the moment.

**Guest speakers** sharing their extraordinary life experiences.

And the **Group Challenge** in which delegates are divided into small discussion groups, allocated a question prompted by current events, and given an hour to prepare an informal presentation.

The entire event adds up to a rich and unique experience.

The title **Scotland Young Thinker of the Year 2012** will be awarded to a delegate on the final evening (and will be shared with a delegate on the Autumn Young Scotland Programme).



## The benefits for your organisation and your delegate

For all of our delegates we aim to:

- ✗ develop their communication skills and presentational abilities
- ✗ inspire them to have confidence in themselves
- ✗ expose them to a wide range of ideas, thoughts and life experiences
- ✗ expand their intellectual horizons and their awareness of the issues which affect us all as a society



**The programme will inspire delegates – at all levels of experience and ability – to have more confidence in their own ideas and in their ability to express them.**



### Where and when?

The venue for the programme is the Brook Queensferry Hotel in North Queensferry, Fife. Enjoying panoramic views of the Forth Bridges, the hotel is just 12 miles from Edinburgh city centre and is easily accessible by car and public transport.

**Registration is between 2pm and 3pm on Tuesday 20 March. Delegates will check-out after breakfast on Friday 23 March.**

## FAQs

### Who's eligible?

People (of any nationality) aged 18 or over who live in Scotland and are considered by their employers to be in the early stages of their careers. There is no upper age limit.

### Are places really free of charge?

Yes! The generosity of an individual donor has allowed us to run this Young Scotland Programme for delegates with emerging talent representing prominent organisations in Scotland. Accommodation for three nights and all meals will be paid for by us.

Only transport to and from the venue is not included in this offer – delegates or their organisations must organise this themselves.

### How do we apply?

Applications can be made online or by post. There is an application form on the next page and on the home page of our website – [www.youngprogramme.org](http://www.youngprogramme.org). Invited organisations may nominate up to three employees, although only one delegate per organisation will be accepted. To apply, potential delegates should tell us their chosen subject for their Argument paper and give us a brief outline of the paper. Applicants should complete the form personally (having first checked that they are free to attend on the relevant dates) and have it signed off by a senior figure in your organisation.



**The closing date is Friday 17 February 2012.** Information packs including advice and full details of the event will be e-mailed to delegates on that date.

# Application form

## Young Scotland Programme: 20–23 March 2012

**Apply by post:** Institute of Contemporary Scotland, Suite 216, Liberator House,  
Glasgow Prestwick Airport, Prestwick KA9 2PT OR

**Apply online:** [www.youngprogramme.org](http://www.youngprogramme.org)

**Closing date for applications: Friday 17 February 2012**

I wish to apply for a place on the Spring 2012 Young Scotland Programme. I understand that, if I am accepted, the Institute of Contemporary Scotland will cover the cost of accommodation and meals at the Brook Queensferry Hotel, North Queensferry, but not travel to and from the venue. I confirm that I am able to attend from Tuesday 20 March until checkout after breakfast on Friday 23 March and that I will register at the hotel between 2pm and 3pm on the opening day.

Chosen subject for my Argument paper:

Summary of my Argument paper (in no more than 70 words):

My name \_\_\_\_\_ My job title \_\_\_\_\_

My organisation \_\_\_\_\_

My work address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

My contact telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

My email address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### For completion by nominating organisation:

I confirm that the above person has been nominated by our organisation for the Young Scotland Programme: Spring 2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Job title \_\_\_\_\_

email address \_\_\_\_\_

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